The Trans-European Motorways (TEM) Project is a Project on sub-regional cooperation among Central, Eastern and South Eastern European countries.

The main objectives are:
- To facilitate road traffic in Europe,
- To improve the quality and efficiency of transport operations,
- To balance existing gaps and disparities between motorway networks in Western, Eastern, Central and South-Eastern Europe, and
- To assist the integration process of European transport infrastructure systems.

TEM is the backbone of the Pan-European Road Corridors in CEE and of the TINA exercise. It is an important tool to coordinate activities across borders. By cooperating on transport infrastructure development, the region should see overall growth and prosperity.

Basic facts:
- TEM was established in 1977
- Initial financial support was provided by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- UNECE is the executing agency
- There are 15 member countries: Armenia, Austria (associate member), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Georgia, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Turkey
- 4 other countries have observer status: Montenegro, Serbia, Sweden and Ukraine

Structure
The TEM Project is organized around three pillars:
1. The active participation and support of member countries through the Trust Fund Agreement, deposited with UNECE, which nominates the Project's Steering Committee as its highest administrative and political body, formed by national delegates from each participating country.
2. The Project Central Office in Warsaw, hosted by the Government of Poland, with Project office personnel coordinating activities.
3. National Project Offices set up or designated in each participating country to liaise between national activities and those under the Project. These national officers operate under the responsibility of a nominated National Coordinator from every member.

The annual and longer term action plans are set by the Steering Committee and the work is done by the Project's office personnel, Working Groups, Ad hoc Expert Groups, and when required by external consultants in close co-operation with member countries.

The TEM and TER Master Plan, reflecting the priority transport infrastructure needs of 21 Central, Eastern, and South-Eastern European countries*, was published in 2006. The Master Plan has identified the backbone road and rail networks in those countries and presented a realistic investment strategy to gradually develop these networks. As many as 491 projects with an aggregate estimated cost of EUR 102 billion have been evaluated and prioritized. The implementation of such an investment plan would contribute to the economic growth of the countries concerned and to the well being of their populations, as well as assisting the integration and harmonization of transport within Europe and beyond.

The Master Plan provides a useful tool and framework for intergovernmental cooperation towards the coordinated development of coherent international transport infrastructure networks in participating countries and their integration into the pan-European networks.

With this Plan, TEM Project offered a substantial contribution to the extension of TEN-T; the practical implementation of Pan-European Transport Corridors; the promotion of intermodal operations and complementarity of transport modes; and assisted towards the provision of maximum effectiveness of transport infrastructure.

The revised Master Plan, to be published in 2011 will include 4 additional countries, namely: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Austria, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Montenegro, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Ukraine.
TEM Results

- Co-ordination of actions for creation of TEM corridors, based on commonly accepted and adopted standards and practices.
- Contribution in the formation of the future Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) in which TEM is placed as an integral part.
- Improvement of national techniques and understanding of construction, management, operation and maintenance of motorways of the participating countries.
- Improvement of bilateral contacts, co-operation and co-ordination among TEM countries.
- Facilitation of co-operation between East-West road experts.

TEM Outputs

- Assistance in accelerating construction of TEM and its extensions.
- Assistance in designing, building, maintaining, operating and administrating TEM in the member countries.
- Assistance in consolidating the role of TEM in the progress of transport integration in Europe.
- Promotion and improvement of co-operation in all matters concerning transport between TEM countries having different level of development.
- Dissemination of knowledge, expertise and know-how.

For more information:
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