

Minutes from the UNITE meeting at AaU, August 25, 2010

Referent: Patrick Driscoll.

In attendance: Otto Anker Nielsen, Petter Næss, Bo Friis Nielsen, Kim Salling, Stefano Mantzo, David Meisch, Morten Nicolaisen, Jeppe Andersen, Teresa Næss and Patrick Driscoll.

## 1. Welcome and general introductory remarks

1.1 General introduction of project team members and presentation of the agenda (Petter Næss)

1.2 Short general update on the progress of the work within each sub-project

## 2. Questionnaire about opinions and attitudes

2.1 Presentation and discussion on the status of the opinions on transport models questionnaires (Jeppe Andersen)

2.2 Question as to the size of the respondent universe (Kim Bang Salling)

2.3 Question as to the type of analysis (Bo Friis Nielsen)

2.4 Question as to whom to send and how to choose (Otto Anker Nielsen)

Response to 2.4: The questionnaire respondents are not a random sample, and generalization from the results of statistical analyses needs to be based on qualitative judgment of representativeness and similarity in context (Petter Næss)

2.5 Suggestion to use contact information from Trafikdage to build respondent universe (Otto Anker Nielsen)

## 3. Data collection about rail and road projects

3.1 Questionnaires/checklists for information about road and rail projects, as well as data sources and information obtained to date for Danish road projects (Morten Nicolaisen)

3.2 Suggestion that DTU may have some previous data (Otto Anker Nielsen). Otto also suggested that we contact Bente Svendsen (DTU librarian) at [bsv@transport.dtu.dk](mailto:bsv@transport.dtu.dk)

3.3 Suggestion that we contact Knud Erik Andersen at the Road Directorate (Otto Anker Nielsen)

3.4. Discussion about data collection protocols. Kim requires forecasted traffic at time of decision to build and actual traffic from Year 0, Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4 and Y5. Otto needs data relating to model construction (e.g. model name, who developed the traffic model, etc.)

3.4.1 Question about what constitutes a project (Otto)

3.4.2 Question about the context of the project (for example, some segments of overall motorway projects are known bottlenecks that constrict traffic flows) (Otto)

3.4.3 Question about what to do with delayed project openings relative to forecasted traffic (Morten)

3.4.4 Question about how to accurately correlate the forecasted to the actual counts over motorway segments that were built over decades (Bo)

3.5 Decision was made that the opening year of the project would be counted for the overall length, not the individual segments

3.6 Morten demonstrated the draft Excel spreadsheet to solicit feedback from the group.

3.6.1 Request made for detailed opening year (day/month/year, if available). Point is that forecasted traffic for opening year should be for a full year. If a segment opened Dec. 1993, it would be necessary to compare forecast to actual traffic for 1994. (Otto)

3.6.2 Request for a comments column in the spreadsheet (Petter)

3.6.3 Suggestion that we contact Alex Landex at DTU for information on rail projects in Denmark (Otto/Kim)

#### 4 How to get data about Norwegian projects

4.1 Arvid Strand was not able to attend the meeting and reported that he did not have much in the way of data from Norway (Petter)

#### 5 Work so far in WP4

5.1 David M. gave a brief presentation of the work that he has been doing so far on probabilities.

#### 6 Presentation and discussion of the first qualitative interviews with transport modelers and model users

6.1 Some experience from carrying out the first three interviews were presented and some preliminary findings were discussed (Jeppe, Morten and Petter)

## 7 Discussion of Bent Flyvbjerg's role in the project, including questions of pooling data

7.1 Some concerns about the compatibility of the project information in Bent's existing database with the data now collected about Scandinavian infrastructure projects, in particular as regards forecasts for the 'zero alternative', definition of opening year, and how delayed opening is dealt with when comparing projected and actual traffic. The issue of ownership and access to data and methods was also discussed.

7.2 Decision: Otto is to contact Bent to clarify outstanding questions

## 8 Developments in WP 5

8.1. Kim presented.

## 9 Next meetings:

15 Nov 2010 at DTU

In Week 6, 2011. Kim will make a Doodle for a meeting date

The final portion of the meeting was taken up with the project members filling out the draft opinion survey and giving feedback.