

 <p>SIMBA</p>	<h1>SIMBA</h1>
<p>Release</p>	<p>D1.2 – D2.3 – Final Report and Action Plan</p>

Author(s)	Steve Phillips (FEHRL), Mariana Andrade and Javier Barrio (ERTICO)			
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Project Coordinator	Mariana Andrade ERTICO-ITS EUROPE Tel: +32 2 400 07 82 E-Mail: m.andrade@mail.ertico.com			

Abstract	The Final Report and Action Plan summarises key findings and observations. It describes the recommendations for activities to be launched beyond the project period. The plan is based on the findings from the regional activities and proposes future R&D and industry cooperation strategies.
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Control sheet

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1.1 Target audience

This document is prepared for the Directorate-General Research of the European Commission (EC) as a deliverable of the project SIMBA (Strengthening road transport research cooperation between Europe and emerging international markets).

The aim of the SIMBA project was to increase RTD cooperation between the EU and the emerging markets of China, India, Brazil and South Africa. Therefore, through the course of its activities, SIMBA brought together European Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS), infrastructure, vehicle maker practitioners and technology providers with their counterparts in China, India, Brazil and South Africa. The objective was to establish a cooperation network that will discuss how to increase road safety, mobility and transport efficiency in these countries through the exchange of technological know-how and closer cooperation. Building on the mapping of the national and regional RTD activities, policies and future requirements that were developed in previous reports of SIMBA, this report examines the prioritisation of topics for future collaborative activities between the EU and SIMBA regions. Therefore this report is aimed at all of the actors engaged in the process including national and regional stakeholders, industry, public sector and academia. It is intended to provide guidance to funding agencies on the topics that would be suitable for funding and assist the research community in targeting their activities in developing future proposal.

1.2 Structure of the document

This report proposes recommendations for future cooperation. It summarises the main key findings in each of the regions of interest to the SIMBA project. These are Brazil, China, India and South Africa as well as Europe itself. In Chapter 3, the final activity report section provides results of each individual regions' prioritisation of research interests.. Section 4 summarizes proposed ideas for future cooperation and recommendation activities to be launched beyond the project.

1.3 Objective of the report

The SIMBA project aims to increase RTD cooperation between the EU and the emerging markets of China, India, Brazil and South Africa. Therefore, with the support of this report, the result of SIMBA will be to strengthen the relations between European Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS), infrastructure and automotive stakeholders with their counterparts in China, India, Brazil and South Africa in order to establish a cooperation network that will discuss how to increase road safety, mobility and transport efficiency in these countries through the exchange of technological know-how and closer cooperation.

With three of the European partners representing the key pillars of the European Road Transport Research Advisory Council (ERTRAC), SIMBA fulfilled a major role in support the international cooperation activities of ERTRAC and the EC.

The range of potential activities that could be developed was therefore broad and of interest to a variety of stakeholders. This report is the second stage of the recognised SIMBA process for developing research cooperation. The first stage mapped the national and regional RTD activities, policies and future requirements. This mapping of priorities helped the target audience to develop a common appreciation of needs and from this to determine the most promising opportunities for development.

This report aims to identify key findings and propose recommendations for activities to be launched beyond the project in ITS, automotive, and infrastructure. It reports on project events and their outcomes, research priorities, and use and dissemination of project activities.

The outcomes of this report will provide guidance to funding agencies on the most promising topics to pursue through their programmes in order to promote research cooperation. In this regard, the report is not intended as an absolute reference on the most important topics for research. However it does identify where collaborative research activities could be developed in the short- to medium-term between actors in the European Union and the individual SIMBA regions.

1.4 Date of delivery

31 March 2008

Chapter 2 - EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2.1 Contact information

Name: Mariana Andrade

Address: The Blue Tower, 2nd Floor, Avenue Louise 326, B-1050, Brussels, Belgium

Phone: +32 2 400 07 82

E-Mail: m.andrade@mail.ertico.com

2.2 Summary

The SIMBA (Strengthening road transport research cooperation between Europe and emerging international markets) project has organised a series of National Priority Workshops in each of its target countries; China, India, Brazil and South Africa. These workshops were aimed as a wide range of transportation stakeholders. The objective of the workshops was to increase RTD cooperation between the EU and the Emerging markets of the target countries. The method of developing this cooperation was to first develop a common understanding of the road transport situation in each country and then, with key stakeholders, develop some priorities for cooperation. This process was refined through further national events.

SIMBA brings together European Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS), infrastructure, vehicle maker practitioners and technology providers with their counterparts in China, India, Brazil and South Africa in order to establish a cooperation network that will discuss how to increase road safety, mobility and transport efficiency in these countries through the exchange of technological know-how and closer cooperation.

This report aims to identify key findings and propose recommendations for activities to be launched beyond the project in ITS, automotive, and infrastructure. It reports on project events and their outcomes, research priorities, and use and dissemination of project activities.

The results of the SIMBA project made a contribution to the development of the European Commission's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7). The priorities developed through the extensive consultation process described in this report would make a substantial contribution towards ensuring future success in International cooperation between researchers from the EU and SIMBA regions.

Chapter 3 - PUBLISHABLE FINAL ACTIVITY REPORT

3.1 Introduction

The final activity report summarises the major activities and achievements of the SIMBA project. It reports on project events and their outcomes, research priorities, and use and dissemination of project activities.

3.2 Project Execution

3.2.1 Contractors

Coordinator: ERTICO ITS-Europe

Consortium members:

Organisation Name	Org. Short Name
European Road Transport Telematics Implementation Coordination Organisation s.c.r.l.	ERTICO
European Automobile Manufacturers Association	ACEA
Forum of European National Highway Research Laboratories	FEHRL
ITS China	ITSC
Shanghai Automotive Industrial Corporation	SAIC
Tongji University	TJU
Associação Brasileira de Engenharia Automotiva	AEA
TATA Consultancy Services	TATA
Association for Intelligent Transport Systems	ATIS
Infrastructure System Operations and ITS laboratory	CSIR
ITS Denmark	ITS Denmark

3.2.2 *Coordinator Contact*

Mariana Andrade

ERTICO ITS-Europe

Avenue Louise, 326

Brussels, Belgium

B-1050

☎ Tel: + 32 2400 0782 Fax: +32 2400 0701

✉ Mail: m.andrade@mail.ertico.com

3.2.3 *Project logo and website*



www.simbaproject.org

3.2.4 *Project Objectives*

The SIMBA project intended to increase RTD cooperation between the EU and the emerging markets of China, India, Brazil and South Africa. SIMBA brought together European Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS), infrastructure and vehicle maker practitioners and technology providers with their counterparts in China, India, Brazil and South Africa in order to establish a cooperation network that discussed how to increase road safety, mobility and transport efficiency in these countries through the exchange of technological know-how and closer cooperation. The project mapped the national and regional RTD activities, policies and future requirements and proposed demonstration cases to the regional stakeholders, organised seminars, business meetings, and industry visits in order to keep a close contact between the key players.

The main objectives of the project were to: Increase road safety, Improve mobility, Enhance transport efficiency. In order to achieve this, the SIMBA project:

- Prepared, supported and facilitated the rapid adoption and transfer of technologies and research results;
- Defined R&D priorities and future cooperation areas;
- Made recommendations for new innovative road research activities to be launched locally and in the EU;
- Increased the visibility of the European industry and support the industry to respond to emerging business opportunities;

This was done through the following three enablers: ITS, automotive technological development and road infrastructure.

The main activities of SIMBA were to organise events in the EU and the Emerging Markets (EM) that served as a means for fostering closer ties between Europe and the EM in the road transport sector and exchanging knowledge in the fields of ITS, road infrastructure and automotive technological development. The main outcome was trans-national networks of key road transport stakeholders that helped define the priorities, research needs and future cooperation areas for road transport.

3.2.5 Deliverables list

Del. no.	Deliverable name
1.1	Management reports
1.2	Final report
2.1	National research development and policies
2.2	Priority areas for China, India, Brazil and South Africa
2.3	Action Plan
3.1	Meeting Reports
3.2	Contact and Activity Directory
4.1	Project website
4.2	Final plan for using and dissemination of knowledge
4.3	Report on raising public participation and awareness

3.3 Project events

As a major component of the project, SIMBA held a number of cooperation events in each of the targeted regions. In the first stage, Regional Priority Workshops involved both local and European stakeholders (experts from research institutes, authorities, industries and SMEs in the field of ITS, infrastructure and vehicle technologies) to discuss and prioritise the most promising research areas based on their individual national policies and possible issues for future cooperation. In each region, a follow-up national event was held to re-examine the national priorities; responding to developments in the national situation and according to the priorities of the other regions.

These Regional Priority workshops and National Events were organised according to the schedule below:

Region	Regional Priority workshop	National Event
China	25-26 May 2006	9 October 2007
Brazil	30-31 October 2006	4 October 2007
India	9-10 November 2006	21-22 November 2007
South Africa	4-5 December 2006	12-13 July
Europe	21 June 2007	25 February 2008

Participants had a unique chance to establish contacts with other ITS players, infrastructure and vehicle maker practitioners and form new networks. This was intended to support the subsequent forming of partnerships to supply comprehensive transportation solutions using different technologies and applications.

The first workshop brought together European and Chinese road transport stakeholders 25-26 May 2006 in Shanghai. The workshop covered research development on ITS, automotive and infrastructure – the first time these three issues were addressed at such an event in China – in order to define priorities. In addition to the workshop presentations and discussions, the event featured visits to Shanghai Volkswagen and the Shanghai Municipality Transport Information Centre.

A large delegation of European participants took part in the event, including public sector representatives from the Swedish National Road and Transport Research Institute and the French Ministry of Transport as well as industry actors such as Siemens, Blaupunkt, Thales, Renault, DLR, Naviatlas, and GEWI. Chinese participants included representatives from the automotive industry, such as the Shanghai Automotive Industrial Corporation (Group), as well as academic staff from Tongji and Jiaotong University and municipality representatives from the Shanghai Comprehensive City Transport Plan Institute and the Shanghai Municipality Transportation Information Centre.

The Brazil workshop took place at the Milenium Centro de Convenções São Paulo. On the first day, a general session assessed Brazilian and EU state-of-the-art in the fields of ITS, automotive and infrastructure development. On the second day, breakout sessions discussed developments and cooperation possibilities in these three fields in greater depth.

The India Priority workshop took place at Shangri La, New Delhi on 9-10 November 2006 and was attended by over 100 participants. Stakeholders from public authorities, industry and research from both India and EU met to discuss transport priorities in India and areas for SIMBA collaborative research. The workshop was hosted by SIMBA Indian National Coordinator, Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM).

The two-day event started with an inaugural session where Dr Ramesh Chandra Panda, Secretary, Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises gave a keynote address. Following this a special plenary including representatives from Ministry of Road Transport, Shipping and Highways, Department of Science and Technology and Ministry

of Information and Communication, gave an overview of policy framework and initiatives of the Government of India in road transport. The workshop then ran three break-out sessions automotive, ITS and infrastructure where both EU and Indian participants presented state of the art and research priorities in their region. On the following day, the break-out groups brainstormed on collaborative research topics and identified several promising areas for SIMBA joint research. Finally, there was a special plenary on transport planning and requirements for the Delhi Commonwealth Games 2010.

The first project event for South Africa was held in Stellenbosch. As with the other workshops, the event consisted of plenary events bringing together relevant stakeholders from the ITS, infrastructure and automotive sectors. These were complements by individual working session where the separate priorities could be examined by the experts in greater detail.

The results of the national Priority Workshops were used to develop series of research topics that formed the basis of further development at National Events.

The final workshop of the first phase of SIMBA was held in Aalborg on 21 June 2007. The event aimed to present the outcomes of the Regional Priority Workshops from each SIMBA country Brazil, China, India and South Africa and to discuss the country's identified areas for cooperation with EU in ITS, automotive and infrastructure. More than 40 participants also discussed the desired outcomes of SIMBA which should be the formation of expert Working Groups and concrete recommendations for project ideas which the National Events will aim to establish.

The European Priority Workshop was accompanied by an Special session at European ITS Congress on 18 June 2007: 'Opportunities for International Cooperation with key Emerging Markets'. During this session key guest speakers from Brazil, China, India and South Africa presented their transport priorities, challenges, solutions required and cooperation opportunities with the EU.

The two-day South Africa National Event brought together over 60 European and South African infrastructure operators, vehicle makers, technology providers and ITS stakeholders in Pretoria, South Africa on 12-13 July 2007. Furthering the discussions held at last December's Priority Workshop in Stellenbosch, the event defined possible future activities to be done in cooperation between the EU and South Africa in the field of road transport research.

The meeting highlight was the signing of the "European Commission – South Africa joint statement on road transport research cooperation". Building on the dialogue and identification of surface transport R&D started under SIMBA and the 6th South Africa-EU JSTCC's reconfirmation of the parties commitment to promote cooperation in this field, the Joint Statement and accompanying Action Plan aims to provide impetus and a roadmap for enhanced South Africa – EU surface transport R&D cooperation.

The Brazil National Event took place in conjunction with the SIMEA Congress (International Symposium on Automotive Engineering) on 4 October 2007.

In addition to a summaries of European and Brazilian priorities, the SIMBA event featured specific Brazilian proposal presentations on integrated traffic management/real-time traffic information, incident detection and emergency response (i.e. E-call) and road infrastructure safety (improving road security with automatic and intelligent control systems). These were followed by separate break-out sessions for each topic. The outcome of the event included the creation of joint EU-Brazil expert working groups, project proposals and joint road transport research roadmaps.

The Chinese National Event Took place in Beijing's Xi Yuan Hotel on 9 October 2007, just before the 14th ITS World Congress in Beijing. Several important cooperation priorities, such as traffic information and traffic management; road safety (vehicle and infrastructure); and public transportation were discussed by European ITS practitioners and their Chinese counterparts, with an outcome of concrete short and medium-term actions and the formation of working groups to further the discussion on the priorities and possible future activities.

The India National Event was held on 21-22 November in New Delhi. The aim was to create joint SIMBA working groups, project proposals and joint road transport research roadmaps. Progress on the project proposals that were identified in the Priority Workshop of November 2006 were also presented.

The SIMBA project's Final European Event brought together over 50 Chinese, Brazilian, South African, Indian and European infrastructure operators, vehicle makers, technology providers and ITS stakeholders in Brussels on 25 February 2008. Furthering the discussions held at the SIMBA National Events in emerging markets in 2007 and the initial Priority Workshops in 2006, the event defined possible future activities to be done in cooperation between the EU and emerging markets in the field of road transport research.

A balance of the results and conclusions of SIMBA national research developments during the two years of the project was presented at the workshop.

3.4 Use and Dissemination

The use and dissemination of project results has been a key focus throughout the SIMBA project. The project consortium initiated a wide dissemination of project activities and results. Some of the main dissemination activities include:

- Organisation of ten SIMBA events: four regional priority workshops, followed up in the second year of the project by four national events, concluded with two European events (detail of events available in table 2.1).
- Attendance to key transport/ITS/infrastructure conference meetings representing the project (for example ITS World Congress 2006, ICT Helsinki 2006)
- National coordinators and other SIMBA partners have conducted a large number of meetings with government officials, research institutions and commercial organisations to provide information on the initiative and to gain their support to attend project events
- Contact to national magazine and newspaper journalists by SIMBA partners to disseminate project news. Interviews given providing with updates on latest status of project activities.
- Radio interviews (e.g. three interviews given after South Africa National Event)
- Creation of database of stakeholders (and expression of interest to join future working Groups)
- Project website which has been a means to provide information on the project background, events, contact details, publications and news on relevant developments in Emerging Markets
- Project partners websites. Dissemination through project partners' websites, newsletters and brochures.
- Project newsletter, allowing interested parties to subscribe for news on project events
- Project brochure, invitation letters, backdrops, posters and flyers which were taken by the consortium to SIMBA workshops and related major events to disseminate information and contact details about the project or to send electronically to describe the project aims and activities
- Creation of safety vests, business bags and mints giveaways with SIMBA and European Commission logo

Dissemination material produced includes:

Project Website

The SIMBA website is a dynamic tool providing up-to-date information on SIMBA to all stakeholders and the general public. The ERTICO team defined the website requirements and is responsible for its management. The website is managed by an ODEUM Content Management System produced by the company WebHouse.

The SIMBA website (www.simbaproject.org) has the following sections: About SIMBA activities, News, Events, SIMBA Regions, Media Resource, Links and Consortium Only. The website was continuously updated in terms of content.

In order to increase the number of visitors to the website, the project team disseminates the results of SIMBA meetings online, including agendas, list of participants, minutes, presentations and photos. Relevant news gathered is published on the website and a list of related events in each of the target markets is available to users. As a result, the SIMBA stakeholders now regularly visit the website.

There has been a steady increase of visits to the website since the beginning of the year. The table below shows the number of visits for the duration of the project (from 1 March 2006 to 29 February 2008).

Press releases and press coverage

Press releases were produced by SIMBA and disseminated through the project's website and newsletters. The SIMBA partners also contributed to the website with relevant news articles. In total, 115 project news articles were uploaded to the website.

Press releases reported on the results of SIMBA events, and provided complete documentation of meetings. In addition, public project reports were published and press releases were edited to give visibility to the conclusions.

Press kits

Press kits were distributed both through the website, via newsletters and via email to journalists and general public. The project press kit includes flyers with general information on the project, public reports produced by SIMBA and press releases reporting on project events and activities.

Electronic Newsletters

Electronic newsletters are issued via the SIMBA website. They are aimed at interested stakeholders and serve to highlight progress and achievements of the SIMBA activities. The SIMBA electronic newsletters serve to disseminate articles produced by the SIMBA team.

SIMBA news articles were sent through the ERTICO eNewsletter during the first year of activity. Due to the high volume of content to be sent, the project created its own newsletter. Three newsletters were edited in 2007.

SIMBA Flyers – Edition 2006, Edition 2007

SIMBA flyers were created to provide the general public with a background of the project objectives, activities and events. A first edition was launched in 2006 and an update was done in 2007. The SIMBA Flyer was distributed at SIMBA workshops and National Events, and also at major international events and congresses.

Project backdrops and posters

Project backdrops and posters were produced to advertise and give visibility to the project during the 10 SIMBA Workshops and National Events in the 2 years.

Booklet with detailed explanation of ITS technologies

SIMBA distributed a booklet with detailed explanation of ITS technologies at international congresses and project meetings. National coordinators took the opportunity of participating to project meetings to distribute their national activities brochures.

Info-packs, documentation folders

Info-packs providing the agenda, participant's list, pens, presentations and scratch paper were offered.

Business bags

Business bags were produced by national coordinators and distributed at project workshops and national events together with info-packs.

SIMBA safety vests

Safety vests with the SIMBA and European Union logo were produced. Vests were predominantly distributed to stakeholders who participated to SIMBA events.

SIMBA mints

SIMBA mints were a creative way of giving visibility to the project. Mint boxes mention the project website.

3.5 Key findings

Through the project activities, including two research reports (priority areas definition; national research development and policies), project meetings and exchange of information with key stakeholders, monitoring relevant developments in Emerging Markets, the following exploitable results have been generated:

- the definition of priority areas for SIMBA cooperation where there is mutual interest to cooperate and drive forward progress in Emerging Markets
- key networks built up and expression of interest for joining SIMBA Expert Working Groups on priority ITS, Automotive and Infrastructure topics
- awareness of European Commission initiative in Emerging Markets and the possible deployment of European technologies in Emerging Markets (by National Governments, industry, academia and NGOs)
- awareness of Emerging Market needs, priorities and context by EU stakeholders (policy makers, road operators, industry, research, associations)
- identification of strong demand from Europe and Emerging Markets to cooperate within this domain and identification that there are mutually beneficial outcomes
- input from broad stakeholders on key future actions

These valuable results have been the first major step between Europe and Emerging Markets within ITS, automotive and infrastructure. The results should be used in the future in order to continue the quest to improve road safety, mobility and efficiency of transport in Emerging Markets through the development and deployment of systems.

Key exploitable results of the SIMBA project

Through the project activities including a research report of priority definition, project meetings and exchange of information with key stakeholders, monitoring relevant developments in Emerging Markets, the following exploitable results have been generated:

- the definition of priority areas for cooperation where there is mutual interest to cooperate and drive forward progress in SIMBA countries
- key networks built up and expression of interest for joining expert Working Groups on priority topics
- awareness of European Commission initiative in Emerging Markets and the possible deployment of European technologies
- awareness of SIMBA countries needs, priorities and context by EU stakeholders (policy makers, road operators, industry, research, associations)
- identification of strong demand from Europe and Emerging Markets to cooperate within this domain and identification that there are mutually beneficial outcomes
- input from broad stakeholders on key future actions

Chapter 4 - ACTION PLAN

Following the series of Priority Workshops and National Events, the national representatives of China, India, Brazil and South Africa were asked to review the results with their stakeholders. The SIMBA National Coordinators are:

- China - ITSC (China National Intelligent Transport Systems Centre of Engineering and Technology)
- India – SIAM (Society of Indian Automotive Manufacturers)
- Brazil - AEA (Brazilian Association of Automotive Engineering)
- South Africa – CSIR (Commonwealth Science and Industrial Research)

These organisations used the outcomes of each project meeting and further consultation with their member organisations and networks to consolidate and prioritise key areas for R&D and cooperation with EU.

4.1 Proposals of future areas for cooperation

The areas suggested below have been identified as areas of mutual interest for research cooperation by both European and Emerging markets and may be considered for future EU international cooperation areas in the future calls for Sustainable Surface transport research. A review of the research activities described in the priorities indicated by the SIMBA regions suggests that direct participation in the Cooperation activities of the RTD programme is not always needed. Therefore the recommendations for future activities consider Cooperation activities and Coordination and Support Activities.

For Cooperation projects, the following topics appear to offer good opportunities for strong collaboration.

- Electronic Toll Collection
- ITS for public transport
- Integrated Traffic Management
- Incident Detection and Emergency response
- Pavement Management Systems/ Bridge Management Systems
- Alternative and recycled construction materials
- Heavy vehicles and road wear
- Alternative fuels
- Vehicle and Pedestrian Safety
- Public Transport Systems based on Buses
- Goods Transport: Security Systems

For Coordination and Support Activities the following topics should be considered.

- ITS Policies and Development Trends

- Electronic Toll Collection
- ITS for public transport
- Standards and certification aspects
- Road Infrastructure safety
- Pavement Management Systems/ Bridge Management Systems
- Alternative and recycled construction materials
- Heavy vehicles and road wear
- Alternative fuels (Vehicle Technologies for Ethanol and Flexfuel Second Generation Biofuels and the Fisher-Trops process)
- Vehicle Safety
- Vehicle Production Design
- Public Transport Systems based on Buses
- Goods Transport: Security Systems

In all cases, consideration should be given to activities that build on existing EU projects. This might include opportunities to bring additional partners into existing consortia. Coordination activities should also seek to cluster with existing research at both the EU and national level.

4.2 Recommendation for activities to be launched in ITS

High priorities for Emerging Markets

Below is a summary of the highest research priorities for the SIMBA regions Brazil, China, India and South Africa

- ITS policies and development trends
- Electronic toll collection
- eSafety
- ITS for Public Transport
- Standardisation and certification
- Integrated Traffic Management
- Road weather information
- Floating car data collection.

It is recommended that the development of cooperation in these areas is pursued with the individual countries either as part of currently planned SIMBA activities or other events and missions organised within the context of EU activities.

High international collaboration priorities for EU

The EU priorities for international cooperation with SIMBA regions were identified by ERTICO, FEHRL and ACEA/EUCAR as being

- Electronic Toll Collection

- ITS for public transport
- Integrated Traffic Management
- Real-time Traffic Information
- Incident Detection and Emergency response

4.3 Recommendation for activities to be launched in Automotive

High priorities for Emerging Markets

Below is a summary of the highest research priorities for the SIMBA regions Brazil, China, India and South Africa

- Alternative fuels
- Emissions fuel and economy
- Vehicle safety
- Automotive recycling research
- Vehicle materials research

It is recommended that the development of cooperation in these areas is pursued with the individual countries either as part of currently planned SIMBA activities or other events and missions organised within the context of EU activities.

High international collaboration priorities for EU

The EU priorities for international cooperation with SIMBA regions were identified by ERTICO, FEHRL and ACEA/EUCAR as being

- Alternative fuels (Vehicle Technologies for Ethanol and Flexfuel Second Generation Biofuels and the Fisher-Trops process)
- Vehicle Safety
- Vehicle Production Design
- Public Transport Systems based on Buses
- Goods Transport: Security Systems

4.4 Recommendation for activities to be launched in Infrastructure

High priorities for Emerging Markets

Below is a summary of the highest research priorities for the SIMBA regions Brazil, China, India and South Africa

- Road infrastructure safety
- Road Pricing
- Intelligent infrastructure
- Pavement Management Systems
- Traffic information collection
- Telematics within infrastructure
- Alternative and recycled construction materials
- Air quality issues
- Heavy vehicles and road wear

It is recommended that the development of cooperation in these areas is pursued with the individual countries either as part of currently planned SIMBA activities or other events and missions organised within the context of EU activities.

High international collaboration priorities for EU

The EU priorities for international cooperation with SIMBA regions were identified by ERTICO, FEHRL and ACEA/EUCAR as being

- Pavement Management Systems/ Bridge Management Systems
- Alternative and recycled construction materials
- Heavy vehicles and road wear
- Road Infrastructure Safety

Chapter 5 - CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Report Summary

This report has summarised the key findings and proposed recommendations for activities to be launched beyond the project in ITS, automotive and infrastructure fields. It has reported on project events and their outcomes, research priorities, and use and dissemination of project activities.

As a major component of the project, SIMBA held a number of cooperation events in each of the targeted regions. Regional Priority Workshops and National Events involve both local and European stakeholders (experts from research institutes, authorities, industries and SMEs in the field of ITS, infrastructure and vehicle technologies) to discuss and prioritise the most promising research areas based on their individual national policies and possible issues for future cooperation. From these the national representatives of the SIMBA countries provided detailed input on the main topics for possible cooperation.

5.2 Recommendations for future international cooperation calls

The areas suggested below have been identified as areas of mutual interest for research cooperation by both European and Emerging markets and may be considered for future EU international cooperation areas in the future calls for Sustainable Surface transport research. A review of the research activities described in the priorities indicated by the SIMBA regions suggests that direct participation in the Cooperation activities of the RTD programme is not always needed. Therefore the recommendations for future activities consider Cooperation activities and Coordination and Support Activities.

For Cooperation projects, the following topics appear to offer good opportunities for strong collaboration.

- Electronic Toll Collection
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- Alternative and recycled construction materials
- Heavy vehicles and road wear
- Alternative fuels
- Vehicle and Pedestrian Safety
- Public Transport Systems based on Buses
- Goods Transport: Security Systems

For Coordination and Support Activities the following topics should be considered.

- ITS Policies and Development Trends
- Electronic Toll Collection
- ITS for public transport
- Standards and certification aspects
- Road Infrastructure safety
- Pavement Management Systems/ Bridge Management Systems
- Alternative and recycled construction materials
- Heavy vehicles and road wear
- Alternative fuels (Vehicle Technologies for Ethanol and Flexfuel Second Generation Biofuels and the Fisher-Trops process)
- Vehicle Safety
- Vehicle Production Design
- Public Transport Systems based on Buses
- Goods Transport: Security Systems

In all cases, consideration should be given to activities that build on existing EU projects. This might include opportunities to bring additional partners into existing consortia. Coordination activities should also seek to cluster with existing research at both the EU and national level.