



# Presentation of the Association

March 2025

# Introduction

## What is PIARC?



# What is PIARC?

- **PIARC = World Road Association**
- We were **founded in 1909** as a non-profit, non-political association
- **First global forum for the exchange of knowledge, policy and practice on roads and road transport**
- We work with **high-income** as well as with **low- or middle income countries**
- We have **129 member governments** - they play a leading role
- As well as members who are regions, universities, companies and individuals.
- PIARC mobilizes the experience and knowledge of **1,900 experts** from more than 80 countries in **20+ Technical Committees and Task Forces**.
- Recognised for the quality and neutrality of our work
- Operations structured with 4-year Strategic Plans



# PIARC: What we do - What we don't do

- **Our mission: Serve the needs of our members**
  - Member countries
  - Experts
- **We share best practice, research results, knowledge and recommendations**
- **Rather than research**
- **We do not engage in standardization**
  - We encourage harmonization where appropriate
- **We do not have a mandate to represent our members**
- **We do not express opinions or analysis on national or regional issues**
  - This is a task for member countries or regional road organisations themselves



# Our outputs



# Knowledge exchange on all road-related topics

- **PIARC organises knowledge exchange between international road and transport experts through than 20 Technical Committees:**
  - Ad-hoc dialogue among peers – Discuss issues, Identify solutions, Compare options
  - Network building
  - Joint work towards commonly-agreed deliverables
- **This knowledge is disseminated widely :**
  - Hundreds of Reports, Case studies, Literature reviews, etc.
  - Usually in English, French and Spanish. Usually free of charge.
  - Seminars, workshops, Conferences
  - 5 comprehensive manuals (online)
  - Software and tools (HDM-4, QRAM)
- **PIARC Congresses and events: World-class opportunities for:**
  - Dissemination of these reports
  - Further discussions and debate



# Library of PIARC reports



Downloadable pdf files

Available for free at [www.piarc.org](http://www.piarc.org)

## ■ Cycle 2012-2015:

- 40 technical reports were produced by the Technical Committees

## ■ Cycle 2016-2019:

- 46 reports

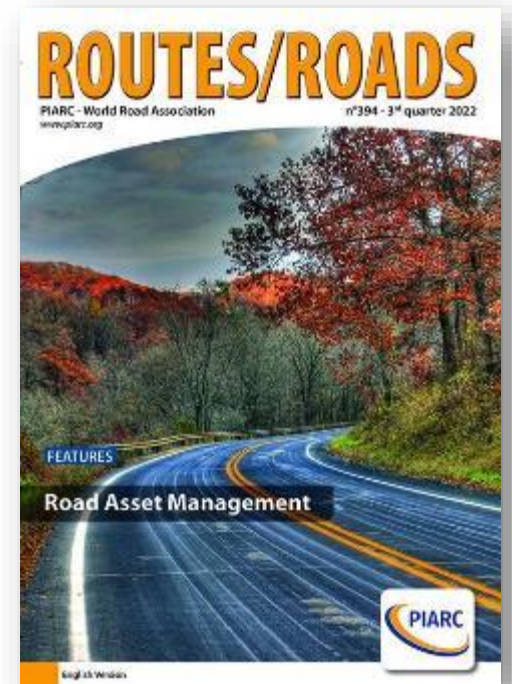
## ■ Cycle 2020-2023:

- More than 100 new reports



# Routes / Roads Magazine

- Our quarterly magazine
- Articles cover emerging road and road transport issues
- English, French and Spanish
- Print and online distribution
- 5,700 copies, readership in more than 140 countries
- Online versions:
  - [routesroadsmag.piarc.org](https://routesroadsmag.piarc.org)
  - [https://www.piarc.org/en/activities/Routes-Roads-](https://www.piarc.org/en/activities/Routes-Roads-Magazine)





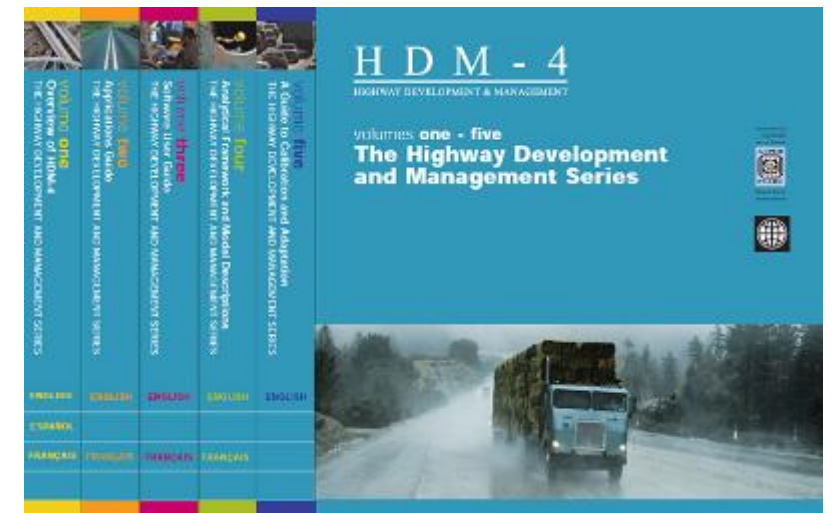
# Software

## ■ HDM-4

- The primary tool for the analysis, planning, management and appraisal of road maintenance, improvements and investment decisions
- Developed with numerous stakeholders
- Distributed through HDMGlobal

## ■ DG-QRAM

- Tool for managing dangerous goods transport in tunnels
- Distributed by PIARC
- Version 4.10 is available (March 2023)



# Online Road Dictionary

- **Technical Dictionary of Road Terms**
- **Online, free of charge**
- **Mainly: English, French, Spanish**
- **As well as:**
  - Dutch 100%
  - Japanese 84%
  - Farsi 78%
  - Chinese 51%
  - Polish 45%
  - Estonian 41%
- **And many other languages**  
**(37 in total)**



The screenshot shows the PIARC website's online dictionary interface. At the top is the PIARC logo and a navigation bar with links like 'DISCOVERING PIARC', 'WORK TOPICS', 'OUR ACTIVITIES', and 'NEWS & AGENDA'. A search bar is present with a dropdown menu set to 'English'. Below the search bar, the breadcrumb trail reads 'Home > Our activities > Road Dictionary > Term search'. The main heading is 'Search a term in the Road Dictionary'. The search input field contains 'winter maintenance' and has an 'OK' button. Below the search bar, there are dropdown menus for 'Source language' (set to 'English') and 'Target language(s)'. To the left of the search results, there is a section 'Add criteria' with three radio button options: 'The term and its synonyms' (selected), 'Only the term', and 'All content'. The search results are displayed in a table with two columns: 'Thèmes' and 'Terms'. The 'Thèmes' column lists 'Operations' and 'Winter Serviceability'. The 'Terms' column lists 'tool for winter maintenance', 'winter maintenance' (with a synonym 'winter service'), and 'winter maintenance contractor'.

Thèmes	Terms
Operations	<a href="#">tool for winter maintenance</a>
- Winter Serviceability	<a href="#">winter maintenance</a> syn : winter service
	<a href="#">winter maintenance contractor</a>



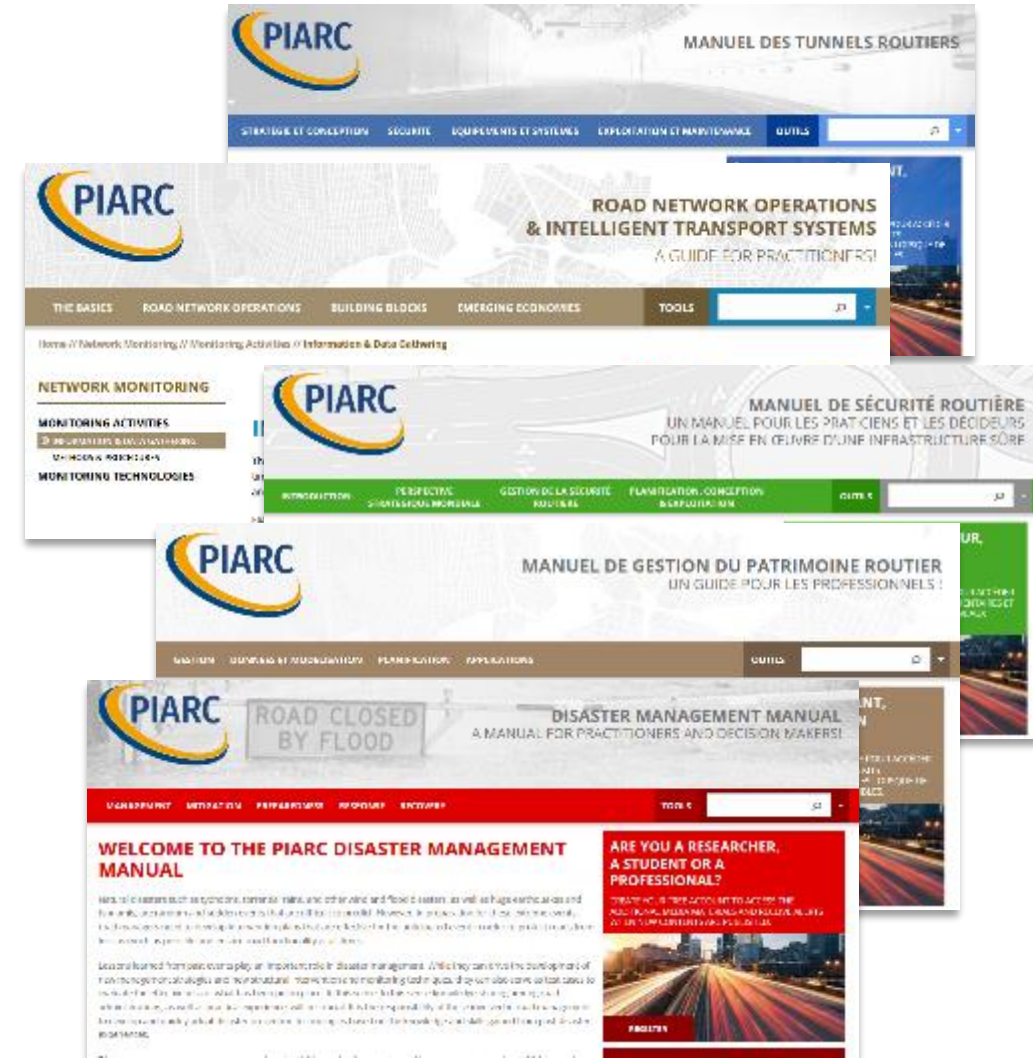
# Online Manuals : Easier and structured access to knowledge

## ■ Five online manuals:

- [Disaster management \(2022\)](#)
- [Road Tunnels Operations \(2019\)](#)
- [Road safety \(2019\)](#)
- [Road asset management \(2019\)](#)
- [Road network operations and ITS \(2015\)](#)

## ■ Easy and attractive to use:

- Free of charge
- Key principles for each of the topics are included and discussed in the sections
- Case studies and links to detailed technical material and other references
- Can be downloaded and printed in chapters



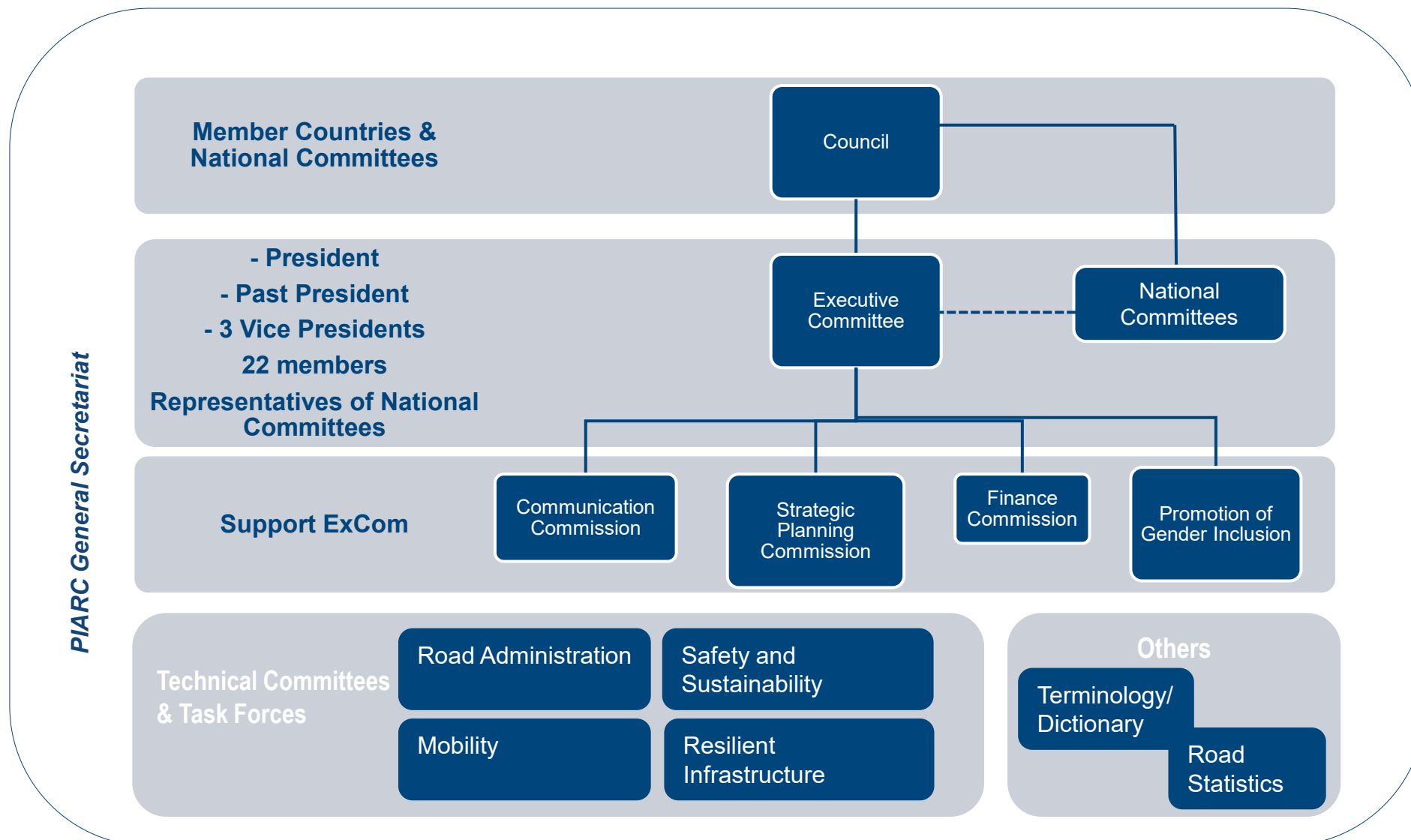


# Our structures





# PIARC Organisational Structure



# Executive Committee 2025 - 2028

## President

**Emanuela STOCCHI**, Italy



## Past President

**Nazir Alli**, South Africa

## Vice-Chairmen

**Mamoudou Alassane Camara** (Senegal)

**Dharmananda Sarangi** (India)

**Alexander Walcher** (Austria)

## Members

**Geoff Allan**, Australia; **Ernesto Barrera**, Chile; **Randall Cable**, South Africa; **Joao Caetano**, Portugal; **Mamoudou Alassane Camara**, Senegal; **Juan Carlos Fuentes Orrala**, Mexico; **Hugh Gillies**, UK; **Setsuo Hirai**, Japan; **Berik Kamaliev**, Kazakhstan; **Karola Lambeck**, Germany; **Joshua LaRocque**, Canada; **Martin Lengi**, Estonia; **Vaclav Neuvirt**, Czech Republic; **David Palmitjavila**, Andorra; **Bine Pengal**, Slovenia; **Frédéric Pellerin**, Canada Quebec; **Anne Séverine Poupeleer**, Belgium; **Chansu Reem**, South Korea; **Zhou Rongfeng**, China PR; **Pascal Rossigny**, France; **Dharmananda Sarangi**, India; **Gloria Shepherd**, USA; **Alexander Walcher**, Austria; **Sufiyan Zakaria**, Malaysia; **Slah Zouari**, Tunisia

## National Committees' Representative

**Aleksandra Skorupska**, Poland

# 50 PIARC National Committees in 51 Countries

**They are independent, country-based organisations.**

## **Objectives:**

- Facilitate national discussions on roads and road transport
- Promote the work of PIARC
- Liaise with national experts and issues

- Algeria, Argentina, Australia (Austroads ), Austria,
- Belgium, Benin, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso,
- Cameroon, Canada, Canada-Québec, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic,
- Dominican Republic
- Ecuador
- France,
- Germany, Greece, Hungary,
- India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan
- Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco,
- Niger, New Zealand (Austroads ),
- Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Romania,
- Senegal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Switzerland,
- Tanzania, Thailand, Tunisia
- **United Kingdom**, United States, Uruguay



# Recent achievements





# More than 100 PIARC publications in 2020-2023

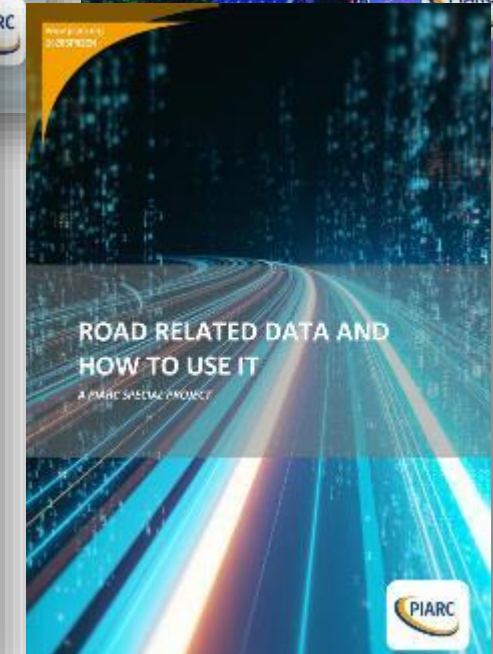
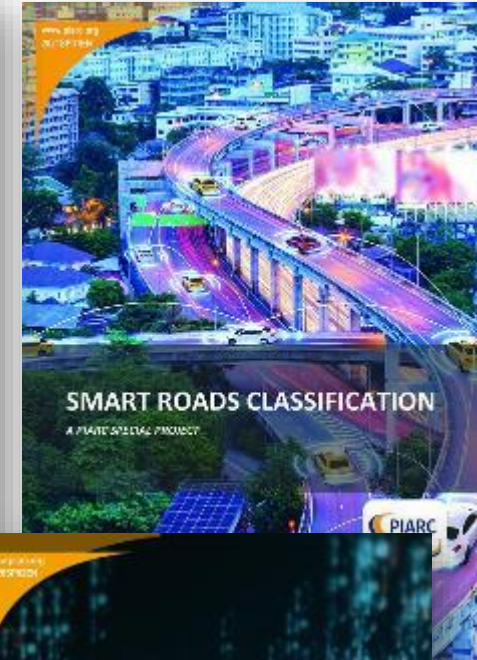
- Improving Road Tunnel Resilience, Considering Safety and Availability - PIARC Literature Review
- How Countries Undertake Well-Prepared Projects: A Review on Ten Countries
- Snow and Ice Databook
- Best Practices in Funding and Financing of Road Infrastructure
- Diversity and Talent Management in Transport Administrations – The Road to Success?
- Greening of Freight Transport
- Use of Recycled Materials in Pavements
- Etc.

<https://www.piarc.org/en/activities/PIARC-Directory-Technical-Reports/PIARC-Technical-Reports-2020-2023>



# Special Projects (outsourced)

- **Special Projects: Many reports already published**
  - Overweight vehicles: impacts on road infrastructure and road safety
  - Bridges and tunnels strikes by oversize vehicles
  - Smart Roads Classification
  - Road Sector's Contribution to Carbon Neutrality (2022)
  - Innovation policies (2023)
  - Raising awareness on gender inclusion and diversity (2023)
  - Bicycle Paths & Expressways (2023)
  - Equity and Accessibility (2022)
  - PIARC Road Safety Knowledge Exchange (2023)
- **2024 Projects (underway)**
  - Artificial Intelligence in the road sector
  - Rapid Impact Assessment
  - Updates to the Road Safety Manual





# International PIARC Events in 2020 - 2023



## ■ Two World Road Congresses:

- World Road Congress – All topics, Around 4 000 participants
- World Winter Service and Road Resilience Congress, Around 1 200 participants

## ■ SURF 2022 - The 9th Symposium On Pavement Surface Characteristics

- Milan (Italy), September 12-14, 2022, Over 250 participants

## ■ PIARC 2nd International Conference On Road Tunnel Operations And Safety

- Granada (Spain), October 25-28, 2022, Over 600 participants



## ■ Many seminars in LMICs or workshops in HICs. Recent examples:

- April 19-20 2023: "*Advances in Design, Construction and Operation of Tunnels*", **Dehradun, India**
- May 3-5, 2023, "*Resilient, sustainable and safe rural roads & earth structures for a better future*" **Tunis, Tunisia**
- May 11, 2023, "*International Workshop on Inspection, management and rehabilitation of Road Bridges*", **Kobe, Japan**
- May 11-13, 2023, "*Innovative road operation concepts for safe and sustainable mobility*" **Rabat, Morocco**
- May 31 - June 2, 2023, "*Sustainable road freight transport for economic and social development*", **Arusha, Tanzania**

# Great start to the new 2024-2027 work cycle

- For reference: We published more than 100 reports in 2020-2023

<https://www.piarc.org/en/activities/PIARC-Directory-Technical-Reports/PIARC-Technical-Reports-2020-2023>

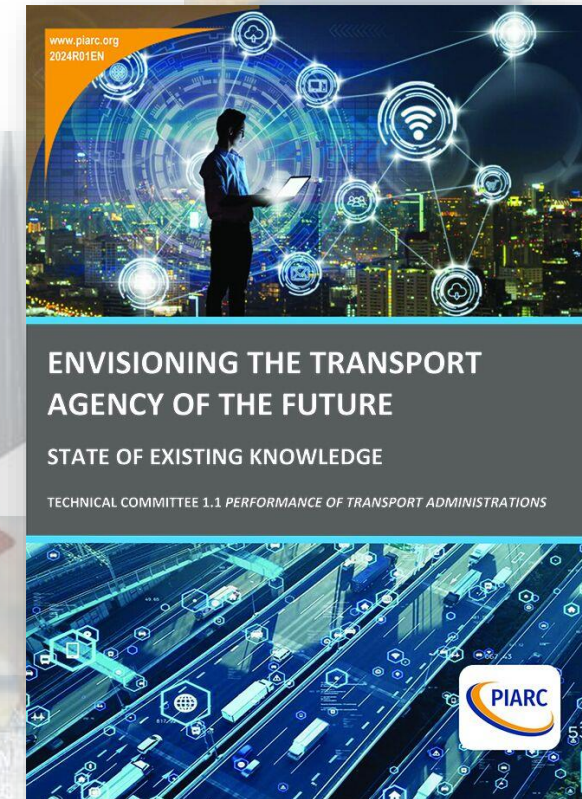
- 2024 – 2027: **1900** experts have been volunteered by our member countries

This is a >40% increase from the 2020-2023 cycle

- We have published 1 report in 2024 already!

## "Envisioning the Transport Agency of The Future – State of Knowledge"

<https://www.piarc.org/en/order-library/45224-en-Envisioning%20the%20Transport%20Agency%20of%20The%20Future%20%E2%80%93%20State%20of%20Knowledge>





# International PIARC Events in 2024 - 2027

## ■ We organised 13 events in 2024. For example:

- International Seminar on the "Transport Agency of the Future" - Thailand, led by TC 1.1
- International Seminar on "Advances in Bridge Management" - India, led by TC 4.2
- International Workshop on Road Infrastructure for Decarbonization - Australia, led by TC 3.5
- International Workshop on Freight Transport Regulations - Turkey, led by TC 2.3
- International Forum on Highway Investment and Green Infrastructure - China, led by TC 1.3

## ■ Many events are scheduled for 2025:

- International Seminar on Transportation Asset Management - Arusha, Tanzania, 9-11 April
- International Seminar on Climate Resilient Pavements - Tunis, Tunisia, 28-30 April
- Decarbonizing the Road Sector Conference - Vienna, Austria, 7-9 May
- Events in Kazakhstan, Cote d'Ivoire, Senegal, Mexico, China, Mozambique...

## ■ 2026 - 2027 Events:

- International Tunnels Conference - Krakow, Poland, 30 Sept. to 1 Oct. 2026
- SURF Conference - Japan, September 2026
- Bridge Conference - Morocco, April 2026

# PIARC Congresses



# Two major PIARC Congresses in 2020 - 2023

## ■ The World Road Congress

- Important event that has established the Association's reputation
- Held at the end of a four-year work cycle
- The last edition was Prague in October 2023
- <https://proceedings-prague2023.piarc.org/en/>

## ■ World Winter Service and Road Resilience Congress

- Held roughly halfway through the four-year cycle
- Similar objectives and outcomes as the World Road Congress albeit with more focussed topics
- The last edition was Calgary in February 2022 (online). It tackled resilience in addition to winter issues
- <https://proceedings-calgary2022.piarc.org>

■ The programme of both Congresses is coordinated by PIARC.

■ A call for papers is organised for both Congresses.



# 27th World Road Congress

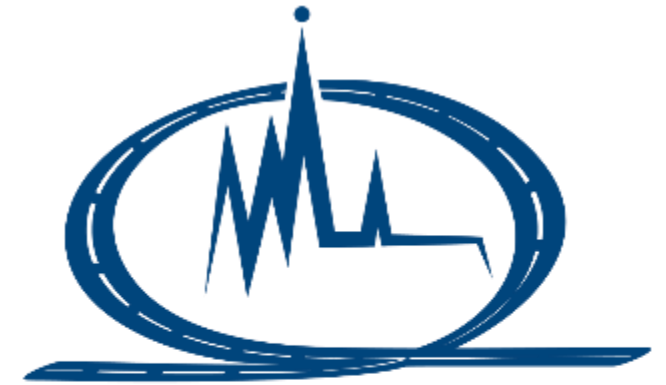
■ **Prague, Czech Republic**

■ **2 – 6 October 2023**

■ **Some figures:**

- 74 sessions, National reports, Int'l Call for papers, Side events...
- Over 4,000 delegates (our record, tied with Mexico in 2011) from >100 countries
- 2,000 students
- 38 participants in the ministerial session
- 28 national pavilions
- 229 exhibitors

■ <https://proceedings-prague2023.piarc.org/en/>



**XXVII<sup>TH</sup> WORLD  
ROAD CONGRESS  
PRAGUE 2023**



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# Prague 2023 Congress: Key points

- **Rich output of PIARC's Technical Committees** – They presented the 80 technical reports (again a record) that were published throughout the 2020-2023 cycle.
- **Strong involvement of private stakeholders.**
- **Strong involvement of PIARC partners.** UN, TRB (USA), CHTS (China), ITF/OECD, World Bank, Asian Development Bank, CAF, iRAP, IRF, IENE, ERF, EAPA, EUPAVE, CEDR...
- **Geographical diversity: High Income Countries** (USA, Japan, France...) as well as **LMICs** (Indonesia, Mexico, South Africa, Senegal...)
- **"Traditional" topics retained their importance:** Two full sessions on bridges, Multiple sessions on road safety, on pavements...
- **Some topics that emerged or were confirmed:** Decarbonization of road transport, Electrification, Equity, Financing, Resilience, Adaptation to CC, Road Safety, Cycle paths...

# Next PIARC Congresses

## ■ 17th World Winter Service and Road Resilience Congress

- 10-13 March 2026
- Chambéry, France



## ■ 28th World Road Congress

- 4-8 October 2027
- Vancouver, Canada



# PIARC Committees and Task Forces





# Committees and Task Forces

- **They are the "engine" of PIARC**
- **They are constituted to deliver outputs**
  - Expected outputs are presented in the "Strategic Plan", which covers a period of 4 years
- **Activities within Committees and Task Forces:**
  - Exchange knowledge between international peers
  - Work on some specific issues
  - Disseminate knowledge widely through Reports, Seminars, etc.
  - Two in-person meetings per year
- **This work should adhere to the quality standards of PIARC:**
  - Broad geographic representativity, including HICs and LMICs



# Technical Committees Members

- **Members of PIARC Committees are volunteers**
- **They are formally appointed by their country's First Delegate (who usually is the road director or similar)**
- **Associate Members can be added:**
  - Such as representatives of partner organisations
  - On a case-by-case basis, handled between the TC Chair and General Secretariat

# Special Fund

- PIARC Special Fund facilitates the participation of members from countries classified as “Low income” and “Lower-middle-income” by the World Bank in PIARC, especially in TC/TF activities.



Limited to three members by country in all TC/TF



It covers 100% of accommodation expenses linked to participation in PIARC events.



The government's annual subscription fees must be up to date.



Info about the use of the Special Fund is available in the Blue Guide.

# PIARC Strategic Plan 2024 - 2027





# New Themes and Committees for 2024 – 2027

*New Committees*

Strategic Theme 1 Road Administration	Strategic Theme 2 Road Mobility	Strategic Theme 3 Safety & Sustainability	Strategic Theme 4 Resilient Infrastructure
TC 1.1 Performance of Transport Administrations	TC 2.1 Roads for Accessibility and Mobility in Urban and Periurban Areas	TC 3.1 Road Safety	TC 4.1 Pavements
TC 1.2 Contribution of Roads to Economic and Social Development	TC 2.2 Roads for Equity, Accessibility and Mobility in Rural and Interurban Areas	TC 3.2 Winter Service	TC 4.2 Bridges
TC 1.3 Finance and Procurement	TC 2.3 Sustainable Freight	TC 3.3 Asset Management	TC 4.3 Earthworks
TC 1.4 Planning the Resilience of Road Networks—Climate Change and other Hazards	TC 2.4 Road Network Operations and ITS for Sustainability	TC 3.4 Environmental Impacts of Road Infrastructure and Transport	TC 4.4 Tunnels
TC 1.5 Disaster management	TC 2.5 Road infrastructure for Connected and Automated Mobility	TC 3.5 Road infrastructure for road transport decarbonisation	TC 4.5 Decarbonisation of road Construction & Road Maintenance
			TC 4.6 Road Design Standards
Task Forces			
TF 1.1 HDM-4			
Cross-Cutting Committees			
Terminology Committee		Road Statistics Committee	
Strategic Coordinator on Decarbonisation			

# External Challenges to the Road Sector

- EC1) Responding to extreme weather events
- EC2) Reducing greenhouse gases from the road sector
- EC3) Adapting to the digital economy
- EC4) Responding to increased automation of driving
- EC5) Tackling worsening road traffic safety
- EC6) Securing mobility and safety of vulnerable road users
- EC7) Seizing national-level infrastructure investment planning
- EC8) Improving the image of the road sector

## Internal Challenges to the Road Sector

- IC1) Increasing use of varying funding models for road investment
- IC2) Securing diverse human resources by creating an attractive and inclusive workplace
- IC3) Improving productivity of road administrations driven by digital transformation

## Challenges for PIARC

- CP1) Effective dissemination of information in line with rapidly changing communication context
- CP2) Ensuring representative membership, inclusivity and diversity
- CP3) Engaging members and supporting volunteers to maximise the impact of their contribution to PIARC
- CP4) Demonstrating value by bringing context-relevant knowledge to LMICs



# Key Organisational Directions

## ■ Strategic Goals for 2024 – 2027:

- PIARC will have a growing and engaged membership
- PIARC will have a nimble, and responsive technical work program that meets the expectations of its membership and adapt to respond to challenges
- PIARC products will be useful, relevant and widely accessible
- PIARC will be a model global not-for-profit member-driven organisation

## ■ This includes, among others:

- **Gender Inclusion and Diversity**
- **Active Promotion and Dissemination.** Being developed: Facebook, Instagram, Podcasts...
- **LMICs:** LMIC-specific topics in the work of our Committees; HICs as well as LMICs are represented on our decision-making bodies; Support mechanisms are available
- **3 working languages** – English, French, Spanish



**Partnerships:** Share opinions; Contribute to one another's activities; Promote our outputs

World Road Association • Association Mondiale de la Route • Asociación Mundial de la Carretera • [www.piarc.org](http://www.piarc.org)



# Key organisational directions



# PIARC and Languages

- **PIARC has three working languages:**
  - French, English and Spanish
  - Our outputs are published in those 3 languages
- **The working language of TCs and TFs is English**
- **TCs and TFs have to deliver their outputs in the 3 languages**
  - Organising translation is a task for the 3 Secretaries
  - Support from GS, such as « DeepL Pro»
- **More translations are welcome**
  - Usually coordinated by National Committees

# PIARC and LMICs

- **PIARC covers High Income Countries (HICs) as well as Low and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs)**
- **We take care to include LMIC-specific topics in the work of our Committees**
- **HICs as well as LMICs are represented on our decision-making bodies**
- **Support mechanisms are available:**
  - Special fund to cover part of the travel expenses of experts to PIARC events
  - Funding for PIARC seminars in LMICs



# PIARC Cooperation with Partner Organisations

## ■ Objectives:

- Avoid duplication
- Share opinions
- Contribute to one another's activities (e.g. Strategic Plan)
- Promote our outputs

## ■ Examples:

- United Nations
- ITF / OECD
- World Bank
- Regional road organisations (incl. REAAA), Etc.

## ■ Advisory Group





# Gender inclusion and Diversity

- **Gender inclusion and diversity were recently agreed as values for PIARC**
- **Practical actions will include:**
  - Encourage women's participation in PIARC activities
  - Cover gender-specific needs in the work of our Committees
  - Organise ad-hoc training and mentoring sessions

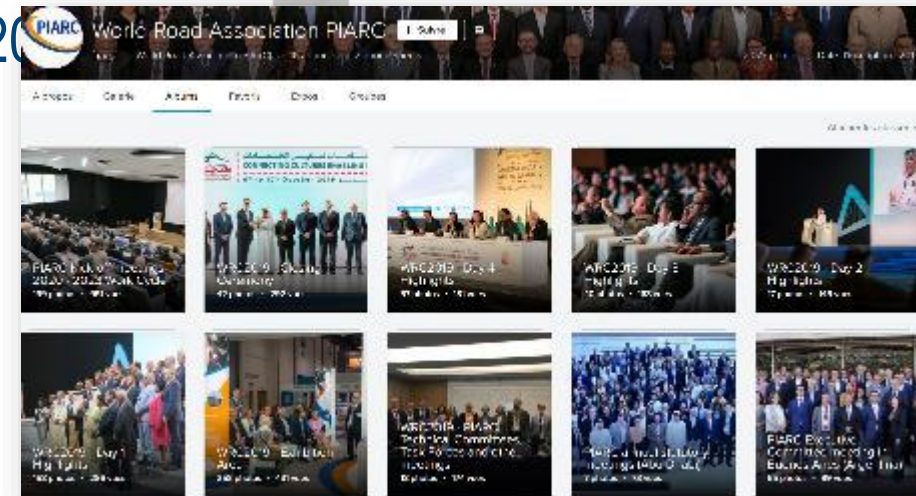
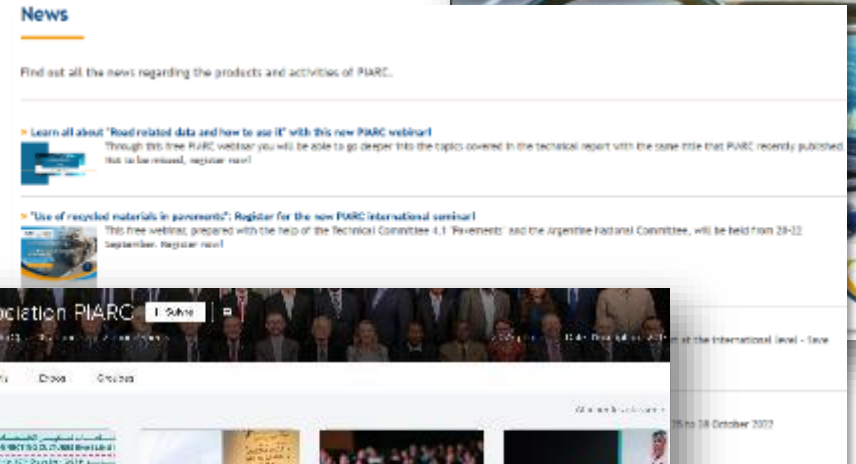
# Why it's important to strengthen relationship between PIARC and universities

- It is important to develop relations and exchanges of knowledge, experience and know-how between the World Road Association and the academic world.
- This could be done through the General Secretariat, the technical committees and the national committees by means of a number of actions to have an impact on PIARC and on universities in general, particularly in low- and medium-income countries



# Promotion and Communication

- It's essential
- Framework: Communication Strategy
- Routes/Roads Magazine:
  - 396: Road Tunnels (March 2023)
  - 397: Women paving the way (June 2023)
  - 398: Roads and Biodiversity (September 2023)
- News and Newsletter
- Videos
- Social Media
  - LinkedIn, Twitter, YouTube and others



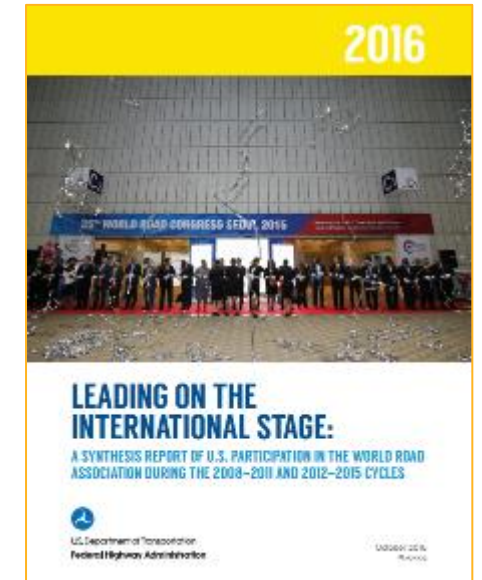
# Conclusion





# World Wide Knowledge exchange: The core of PIARC

- **Aimed at practitioners more than research**
- **International dialogue is more necessary than ever**
  - Efficient and Cost effective
  - Cf. USA's FHWA report « Leading on the international stage » (2016)
- **PIARC mobilises international road and transport experts:**
  - We provide the network
  - Ad-hoc dialogue among peers
  - Showcasing national achievements
  - Learning from others
  - Building networks
  - Joint work towards commonly-agreed deliverables
- **Our outputs are open to all and widely accessible:**
  - Reports, Online tools, Workshops, Seminars, Congresses...



# Advantages of being a PIARC member

- **Easy access to existing reports and to a wide network of colleagues**
- **In Committees, the country's experts can discuss with their peers**
  - Learn from them, Share national examples (promotion)
  - Develop common solutions or approaches to issues
  - Quick access to experts if you have an urgent problem (and it's free)
  - These exchanges are efficient : save time and money
- **Mobilize the national road community**
- **Take part in the strategy and management of PIARC**
- **International recognition and Influence**
- **Exhibit at the World Road Congresses**



# Thank you for your attention!



**Emanuela Stocchi**

PIARC President

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Association PIARC



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Association PIARC



World Road  
Association PIARC

[www.piarc.org](http://www.piarc.org)



# Acronyms

- **ExCom: Executive Committee**
- **1D: First Delegate**
  - Main representative of a member country to PIARC (e.g. the Road Director)
- **TC: Technical Committee**
- **TF: Task Force**
  - Similar to a TC, but more focused: Shorted lifespan, Tackles just 1 issue
- **SPC: Strategic Planning Commission**
  - STC: Strategic Theme Coordinator - Oversees a Theme, i.e. a group of 4 or 5 TCs and TFs
  - Monitors the implementation of the Strategic Plan
- **ComCom: Communications Commission; FinCom: Finance Commission**
- **GS: General Secretariat**

