**AUNT-SUE** 

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Accessibility and User Needs in Transport for Sustainable Urban Environments





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### Newsletter Edition May 2007, Issue 4

You are reading the AUNT-SUE newsletter. It contains updates on our research project, the aim of which is to develop and test sustainable policies and practices that will deliver effective socially inclusive design and operation in transport and the associated public realm.

# Funding confirmed for AUNT-SUE (2007-2009)

The purpose of AUNT-SUE PLUS is to develop a comprehensive 'tool-kit' that can be used at different scales from city-regions down to the microlevel of streets, vehicles and facilities such as bus stops, signage and ticket machines. Central to its approach is the integration of policy, design and operations. Phase 1 of the research programme (AUNT-SUE Main Study) runs for 2.5 years (2004-7) until summer 2007, by which time the development of the key research resources, tools and techniques will be completed ready for further development and exploitation in Phase 2 (AUNT-SUE Plus).

Phase 2 will build on the suite of tools developed in Phase I and apply this to case study sites and areas. This will include new testbeds: King's Cross/St Pancras International and Finsbury Park interchange, as well as the existing testbeds in Camden and St Albans. It will develop and test techniques to design accessible journey environments (routes and facilities), and consult more widely with people who have been identified as socially excluded with respect to travel. The tools developed in the three interlinked research modules will be validated through integrated case studies and testbeds, utilising a GISbased platform supported by CAD, relational databases and both quantitative and qualitative social surveys, including participant observation and consultation ('GIS- for Participation'). Please contact Graeme Evans on g.evans@londonmet.ac.uk for details.

Further details on all forthcoming events are to follow on www.aunt-sue.info

## CABE, London, 14. June 07

Steve Shaw, London Met, will present AUNT-SUE at a CABE staff development seminar.

ATCO Summer Conference, 13.- 15. June 07

Roger Mackett, UCL, will make a presentation on 'Public transport as a tool to extend social inclusion' at the Summer Conference of the Association of Transport Co-ordnating Officers in Llandudno, Wales.

#### Transed, Montreal, 18. - 21. June 07

Helena Titheridge, UCL, will present a paper at the International Conference on Mobility and Transport for Elderly and Disabled Persons (Transed) in Montreal, Canada.

#### WCTR, 24.- 28. June 07

Roger Mackett, UCL, will present a paper written with Kamalashudan Achuthan and Helena Titheridge on 'Conflicts between macro level policy and micro level implementation - the case of social exclusion' at the World Conference on Transport Research in Berkeley, California, USA.

CUPUM 2007, 11.-13. July, Iguassu Falls, Brazil Kamalasudhan Achuthan, UCL will present a paper on Developing Methods for Measuring Pedestrian Accessibility at the 10th

International Conference on
Computers in Urban Planning and Urban
Management. The paper is authored by
Kamalasudhan Achuthan, Helena Titheridge and
Roger Mackett, UCL.

## Access to Destinations Conference, Minnesota, 23. - 24. August 07

Kamalashudan Achuthan, UCL, will present a paper on Assessing the Extent of Transport Social Exclusion among the Elderly at the Access to Destinations Conference in Minnesota, U.S.

#### Walk 21, 1.- 4. October 07

Roger Mackett, UCL, will present a paper written with Helena Titheridge and Kamalashudan Achuthan on 'Overcoming the barriers to walking for people who are socially excluded' at the Walk21 Conference in Toronto, Canada.



## **AUNT-SUE Symposium**

Our annual symposium took place on 21st March 2007. We would like to thank all participants and speakers for their contributions to the presentations and discussion on:

"Inclusive Design and Operation"
"Incorporating Social Inclusion Policy"
"Principles into Practice" (demonstrations)

The AUNT-SUE team concluded that the presentations and demonstrations of the 'tool kit' provoked some interesting questions and discussion. A number of participants commented that the concepts and approaches were clear and emphasised that the 'tool kit' will be useful to designers, planners and policy makers. The audience also provided constructive feedback, for example, on the scope to combine street level and built environment data into the AMELIA decision support tool, as well as to incorporate cognitive and emotional elements in the HADRIAN tool/ Journey planner.

All presentations and a list of participants are available on www.aunt-sue.info/events

Detailed information about all three tools (AMELIA, HADRIAN, STREET DESIGN INDEX) is available on www.aunt-sue.info/publications.

Would you like to meet at your place next time? If you would like us to discuss the emerging tools and resources with you or/ and your colleagues, please contact Antje Witting on 02071333028 or email a.witting@londonmet.ac.uk.

#### **AUNT-SUE at TfL**

TfL and the London Boroughs launched the new guidance for the submission of LIP Local Accessibility Schemes on 23rd April. The new approach is designed to simplify the submissions process, encourage longer term planning and be flexible to local needs. The afternoon included a presentation of the new guidance along with the submissions and reporting processes.

Graeme Evans, London Met, was invited to present AUNT-SUE and Somerstown testbed findings to the audience of practitioners with representatives from all London Boroughs.



Colin Mann (Head of Borough Programmes, TfL) at 21st March AUNT-SUE Symposium, afternoon panel

## **AUNT-SUE** out and about in spring 07

AUNT-SUE papers and posters were presented at the following events. For further details please see www.aunt-sue.info/news

#### INCLUDE 2007, London, 2. to 4. April 2007

Graeme Evans and Nastaran Azmin-Foulandi presented their paper at the International Conference on Inclusive Design (INCLUDE).

#### GISRUK 2007, Ireland, 11. to 13. April 2007

Kamalashudan Achuthan, UCL, presented a paper "Measuring Pedestrian Accessibility" at the GISRUK 2007 - Geographical Information Science Research Conference at NUI Maynooth, Ireland. The paper is authored by Kamalashudan Achuthan, Helena Titheridge and Roger Mackett, UCL.

#### NECTAR, Oporto, 9. to 12. May 2007

Juliet Solomon, London Met, presented a paper at the Network on European Communication and Transportation Activities Research (Nectar) Conference in Portugal.

#### CABERNET, Stuttgart, 25. to 27. April 2007

Steve Shaw and Antje Witting, London Met, presented posters on small Principles into Practice case studies at the 2nd International Conference on Managing Urban Land (CABERNET).

#### AUNT-SUE met KT-SUE, London, 16. May 2007

Graeme Evans, Steve Shaw and Antje Witting, London Met, met Dr Heather J Cruickshank, University of Cambridge, and discussed the ISSUES Knowledge Transfer (KT) programme for the SUE consortia.