



Mobilize Fortaleza 2019
Interactive Workshop
The Future of Research and Capacity Building

VOLVO RESEARCH AND EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATIONS (VREF)

- Independent legal entity, founded by the Volvo Group
- Board appointed by the President of Volvo
- Capital base: Endowment by Volvo
- Tax-exempt: Works for the public good → no benefit for Volvo
- Invest in academic work to get impact in society

VOLVO RESEARCH AND EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATIONS (VREF)

- Transparent processes, open calls for proposals
- All results should be publicly available
- Scientific Council responsible for reviewing of proposals and reports
- Grantees should be universities or research institutes of high academic standing

VREF VISION AND MISSION

VREF Vision

Equitable access and sustainable transport in urban areas

VREF Mission

- To support the development of new knowledge
- To support the development of educational and outreach programs
- To contribute to the dissemination and implementation of research findings
- To support demonstrative examples and change processes.

MAIN ACTIVITY SINCE 2001: FUTURE URBAN TRANSPORT PROGRAM

- 10+ Centers of Excellence
- 50+ smaller projects
- Conferences, Workshops, Seminars
- Study Visit Grants
- Lee Schipper Memorial Scholarship

2019-2020: PREPARING FOR NEXT PHASE OF THE FUT PROGRAM

- Global challenges and trends
- Global policy agendas
- VREF features and opportunities

→ Developing new themes for investment in research and educational activities in the coming 5-10 years

GLOBAL CHALLENGES AND TRENDS

- Urbanization
- Climate change and de-carbonization of transportation
- Socio-economic inequalities and the need for socially inclusive mobility
- New mobility technologies, services and markets
- Changing consumption patterns (e-commerce)

GLOBAL AGENDAS

- UN Agenda 2030 - Sustainable Development Goals
- UN New Urban Agenda
- Paris Agreement on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

VREF FEATURES AND OPPORTUNITIES

- International research cooperation
- Long-term commitment
- Independent of political and commercial pressures
- Flexible in terms of forms and instruments for funding
- Transparent processes
- Relatively small capital base → need to be focused and find niches where VREF investment adds value

POINTS OF DEPARTURE FOR THE NEXT PHASE

- Note the importance of socially inclusive access:
”Research and education with a potential to contribute to concrete improvements for those who have the least access to assets in cities, and often are the most exposed for externalities of urban transport systems”
- Shifting balance from *”What* should be done in urban transport and *Why”* to *”Understanding the ‘How’ - ‘who’ - where - when* of implementation
- *”Social and behavioural science, urban studies, law, etc*

MOBILITY AND ACCESS IN AFRICAN CITIES (WITH A FOCUS ON SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA)

- **Position papers** to deepen the understanding of challenges, knowledge and capacity building needs
- **TUMI-MAC Workshop:** strengthening and broadening networks and the academic capacity base in Sub-Saharan Africa
- **Call for proposals:** Exploratory comparative research
- **Plan for scaling up 2020 -**

DEVELOPING THREE THEMES

- Theme 1: Governance of urban change processes
- Theme 2: Interaction between individuals – technology development in transport – society
- Theme 3: Vulnerability, security and safety in mobility landscapes

GOVERNANCE OF URBAN CHANGE PROCESSES

- Decision-making and urban development processes
- Organisation and Institutional capacity (of cities)
- Political leadership
- Financing urban mobility and access
- Participation of actors from public administration, private sector and civil society

INDIVIDUALS – TECHNOLOGY – SOCIETY WITH A PARTICULAR FOCUS ON SOCIALLY INCLUSIVE ACCESS

- Different users' needs, restrictions and preferences and their significance for developing and designing inclusive mobility services and systems
- Factors and measures for bringing about behavioral changes
- Institutional frameworks for new mobility services
- Legal challenges

VULNERABILITY, SECURITY AND SAFETY IN MOBILITY LANDSCAPES

- Connections between the design of transportation and the perceived and actual possibilities of different people to move.
- Strong link to Non- motorized transport and urban public space
- Links between the individual's conditions and governance and policy-orientations
- Behavioral and social sciences