

Dear NECTAR friends

The year 2019 was a year with several NECTAR activities. The main event was the 15th NECTAR conference “Towards Human Scale Cities: Open and Happy” organized at the University of Helsinki. It was a very successful and happy conference with over 140 presentations. All participants will also have good memories of the boot trip to Isosaari Island with BBQ and Finnish sauna! Moreover, four cluster events have been organized in 2019. A joint cluster 1 and 2 workshop was organized in Rome on “Transport Infrastructures: Investments, Evaluation and Regional Economic Growth”. Cluster 4 organised a special session on “Modelling place attractiveness in the era of Big and Open data” at the ERSA conference. Cluster 5 organised a workshop on “Sustainable tourism in a digital world” in Visby, and a Cluster 6 organised workshop on “Accessibility in times of Technological Innovation, (Re-) Urbanization and Climate Change” in Munich.

The year 2019 also brought sad news. Moshi Givoni, active and much appreciated member of NECTAR since 2003, passed away in November. Moshe was an inspiration for many of us by pushing high-quality research and promoting better transport policies. His wide research interests were reflected by the variety of several cluster meetings that Moshe organized and co-organised. Many of us have fond memories talking with Moshe during NECTAR meetings and its conference dinners and social events. He was a wonderful colleague and NECTAR friend.

The year 2020 will be busy NECTAR year with already 7 cluster events are planned around the globe. Cluster events will be organized in Venice (joint cluster 2/7 workshop), Zaragoza (Cluster 3), Hawaii, Marrakech and Berlin (cluster 5), Portland and Seville (Cluster 6) and Tartu (Cluster 8). And more events will follow!

I wish you a happy and healthy new year and hope you will enjoy one or more NECTAR events this year.

Karst Geurs, January 2020

Sustainable Tourism in a Digital World - Workshop report Cluster 5

by João Romão

NECTAR cluster 5 on Tourism Leisure and Recreation and the University of Uppsala organized the workshop “Sustainable Tourism in a Digital World”, in the city of Visby (Sweden), between the 24th and the 26th of September. The event involved 20 speakers, with particular focus on aspects related to mobility, transportations and the implications on tourism of innovation in digital technologies.

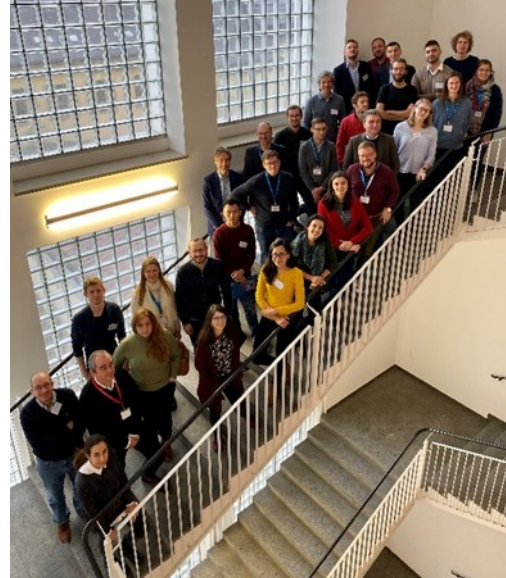


In the last day of the event, a workshop involving local entrepreneurs and public authorities, postgraduate students and the participants in the conference was organized. Following the “open space” methodology for group interaction based on a “bottom-up” spontaneous organization, the group discussed the difficulties and possible solutions to promote a spacial and thematic diversification of tourism services in Gotland, aiming at the sustainable development of the island.

Currently, tourism activities are largely dependent on the short visits of the passengers of cruise ships in the routes in the Baltic Sea, and highly concentrated in the capital city of Visby, a World Heritage Site. The workshop allowed for a very innovative and interesting discussion between academic researchers, students and practitioners in order to generate new ideas and solutions for the local communities.

The Role of Accessibility in times of Technological Innovation, (Re-)Urbanization and Climate Change - Workshop report Cluster 6

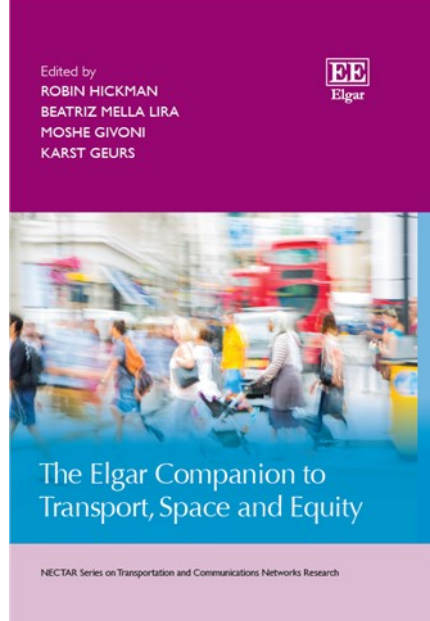
by Benjamin Büttner



In this newsletter we report on the Cluster 6 Workshop “The Role of Accessibility in times of Technological Innovation, (Re-)Urbanization and Climate Change” organized at the Technical University of Munich (TUM) from December 12 – 13, 2019. 35 participants from all over Europe, Asia and North America discussed 20 research papers related to job accessibility, how, when and for whom to measure accessibility as well as the importance of using appropriate scales. Many papers emphasized on local accessibility dealing with individual mobility and perceptions, land use interventions and active mobility. Participants had the opportunity to opt for an interactive session focusing on their research issues in preference to a traditional presentation. This resulted in a brief presentation while using the collective knowledge from all attendees in order to answer the presenters’ research issues.

The workshop was concluded with a walking tour through Munich highlighting its urban and transport interventions while having stimulating and joyful conversations on traditional Christmas markets. To follow up the fruitful discussions a special issue on local accessibility will be organised.

Transport, Space and Equity - a new volume in the Edward Elgar Series volume



The 8th volume in the NECTAR Edward Elgar series was published in November 2019, edited by Robin Hickman, Beatriz Mella Lira, Moshe Givoni, and Karst Geurs. The NECTAR volume “Transport, Space and Equity” explores the relationships between transport and social equity. Transport systems and infrastructure investment can lead to inequitable travel behaviours, with certain socio-demographic groups using particular parts of the transport system and accessing particular activities and opportunities. Employing international case studies to scrutinize the spatial and social equity impacts of transport systems and infrastructure, the contributors bring together wide-ranging empirical research to fill in the lacunae on social equity. This comprehensive book examines transport investments, and related changes in accessibility, urban form and development, house prices and gentrification to better understand the complex relationships between transport and social equity.

If you would like to [order it](#), please remember as a NECTAR member you can get a 50% discount on any NECTAR volume. Use “NECTAR50” as the discount code.

At the moment, preparations are made for the 9th volume in the series, titled “Transport in Human Scale Cities” with contributions from the Helsinki conference, with Tuuli Toivonen, Milos N. Mladenovic, Elias Willberg and Karst Geurs as editors.

If you are interested in editing a NECTAR volume, please inform Karst Geurs, who took over the role as NECTAR series editor from Aura Reggiani in 2020.

The future of European communication and transportation research: a research agenda



NECTAR celebrated its 25th anniversary during the 14th biennial conference in 2017 in Madrid. This anniversary was a good moment to reflect on what changed and what should be the research priorities for the next 25 years. Over 60 NECTAR members, including all cluster chairs, have contributed to the drafting of a research agenda for the future of transportation. It has just been published as a paper in REGION. The paper is structured along the eight NECTAR cluster topics. The research agenda firstly highlights the growing complexity and need for multi- and interdisciplinary transportation research. Secondly, sustainability needs to be addressed in transportation research in its full meaning, including relationships between policy-making investigations and environmental and equity effects. Thirdly, ICTs and digitalisation, the development of (shared) autonomous vehicles and

shared mobility will have profound impacts on economies and spatial interactions all-around the world, and availability of high resolution spatial and transportation data. Digitalisation generates many new research opportunities but also give rise to new concerns about privacy, safety, equity and public health.

Link: <https://doi.org/10.18335/region.v6i3.281>

NECTAR agenda

March 18-21, 2020. Cluster 5-6 Special Session for WRSA-PRSCO of RSAI 2020 on “Regional Science and Tourism”, Waikiki, Hawaii USA

March 26-27, 2020. Joint Cluster 2-7 Meeting “Social and Health Implications of Active Travel Policies”, Venice, Italy

June 2 - 5, 2020. Cluster 5 Special Session on “ICT, Transport and Tourism” at the RSAI congress, Marrakech, Morocco.

June 4-5, 2020. Cluster 3 workshop” Intermodality and synchromodality in the European Modular System”, University of Zaragoza, Spain

June 18— 19, 2020. NECTAR Cluster 5 workshop on “Transport policies and strategies in sustainable tourism” as part of the International Conference “Policies and Strategies in Sustainable Tourism”, Berlin, Germany

July 13 —16, 2020. NECTAR Cluster 6 special session at WSTLUR 2020 on “Accessibility and quality of life”, Portland State University, Portland, Oregon, USA

June 16-18, 2021. 16th biennial NECTAR conference, University of Toronto, Canada