



FOT-NET 2 PROMOTING THE FESTA METHODOLOGY

Haibo Chen, Erik Thomasson & Yvonne Barnard, University of Leeds
Amsterdam 18-03-2014



FOT-Net is a support action co-funded by the European Commission to network FOT activities at European, national and international level.

OVERVIEW

- FOT-Net 2 activities have done much more than just promote the FESTA methodology, they have updated it and added to it in a number of new areas.
- Seminars and workshops were conducted in order to transfer knowledge on the (revised) FESTA methodology and to discuss new issues coming from the FOTs. As some topics required more attention and required the generation of new knowledge, and for this, FOT-Net 2 set up five working groups.

WORKING GROUPS

1. Data Analysis (IKA)
2. Events and incident definition (SAFER)
3. Legal and Ethical issues (BASt)
4. Impact assessment and scaling up (TNO)
5. Data sharing (VCC/SAFER)

WORKING GROUPS

1. Data Analysis (IKA)

- This WG dealt with issues of the amount, type and characteristics of data generated as a result of FOTs and NDSs, and how the data can be used to define and test research questions and hypotheses, to analyse driver behaviour, and to derive conclusion on impacts of considered systems.

A key message:

- *“Key issues are resulting from missing interactions and links to the planning and implementation phase. It is recommended to the analysis team to be involved in the planning and the implementation of FOTs from very beginning of the project”.*

WORKING GROUPS

2. Events and incident definition (SAFER)

- This WG addressed the strengths and limitations of previous approaches to analysing traffic conflicts and incidents. Because crashes are incredibly rare events, other “surrogate” event types have to be used for assessing the influence of driver behaviour(s) or safety technologies on crash risk

A key message:

- *“the main challenge has been the difficulty of coupling non-crash events to crash risk. Unfortunately, precise definitions of Crash Relevant Events with a clear cut, undisputable connection to crash involvement have yet to be fully established”.*

WORKING GROUPS

3. Legal and Ethical issues (BASt)

- This WG collected information from different EU-Member States on the legal issues relevant for FOTs and NDS at national level and highlighted that a major drawback for FOT implementation in many European countries is a lack of precise information on the data protection regulations and liability

A key message:

- *“This information allows for a first overview over challenges that need to be overcome for specific test-designs but it remains highly advisable to seek for further support on legal and ethical issues within the FOT implementation”*

WORKING GROUPS

4. Impact assessment and scaling up (TNO)

- This WG addressed the methodological issues surrounding the impact assessment of systems in FOTs, as well as the translation of the results from the FOT to the regional, national and European levels.

A key message:

- *“the difficulty does not lie in the fact that people do not know in theory how it should be done and that it costs a lot of time, but in the fact that in reality things are different and there is not enough time and/or budget to do things as thoroughly as they should be done”.*

WORKING GROUPS

5. Data sharing (VCC/SAFER)

- This WG collected knowledge from previous projects and made recommendations for a data sharing platform, because data collection in an FOT is expensive and it is therefore important that the data is re-used after the project for additional research.

A key message:

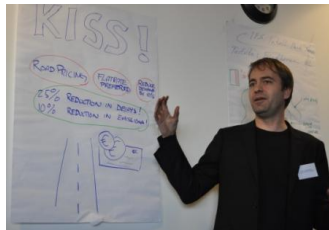
- *“To make further use of the data and thereby the invested money, a data sharing platform was recommended to facilitate for additional research of re-using the already collected data”.*

SEMINARS

- In order to transfer the knowledge developed in the FESTA project and enhance the methodology, **six seminars** were organised during the course of the project.
- The seminar topics covered topics which had been explicitly articulated by the FOT network as needing a common European position to be agreed. In addition, there was an **extra seminar** on FESTA and impact analysis for CIP (Competitive and Innovation Framework Programme) pilot projects.
- The seminar titles did not match the structure of the FESTA handbook, but relevant material was captured at every opportunity and fed into the FESTA revision

SEMINAR FORMATS

The seminars have a balance of expert presentations, discussion and interactive working sessions



THE FOT-NET 2 SEMINAR SERIES

Seminar	Title	Where	When	Participants
1	Practical issues in starting up a FOT of Cooperative Systems and defining research questions, hypotheses and performance indicators	Vigo	15/04/2011	30
2	Interpretation and presentation of results	Aachen	29/11/2011	32
3	FESTA for Beginners	Pisa	9-10/05/2012	28
4	Complementarity of different FOTs and re-use of data	Brussels	26/11/2012	27
Extra	FESTA and impact analysis for CIP pilot projects	Barcelona	4-5/04/2013	15
5	Tools for gathering and analysing data, especially in FOTs of cooperative systems	Berlin	25/04/2013	26
6	FOT achievements and opportunities for the future	Versailles	23/09/2013	22

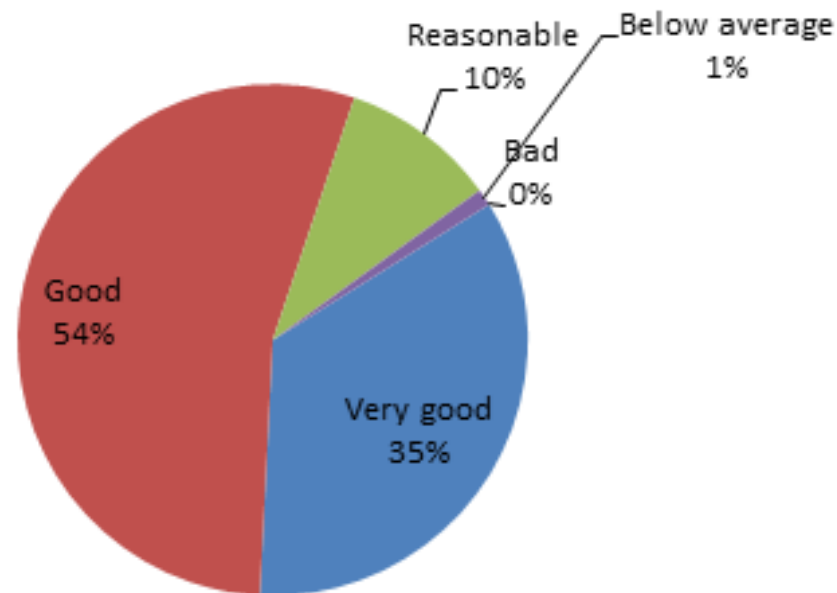
SEMINAR PARTICIPANTS

- On average, **27.5 participants** attended each seminar
- **Individuals**: 126 people including 54 FOT-Net partners, 21 associated partners and 51 people from other organisations
- **Countries**: 14 involved in the seminars
- **Organisations**: 68 including 15 FOT-Net partners, 10 associated partners and 43 others
- **Gender**: 75% male and 25% female

FEEDBACK ON SEMINARS

- the sessions were very well received, with 90% of participants rating them as good to very good; 10% as reasonable and only 1% below average. No delegates rated any of the sessions as having been bad.

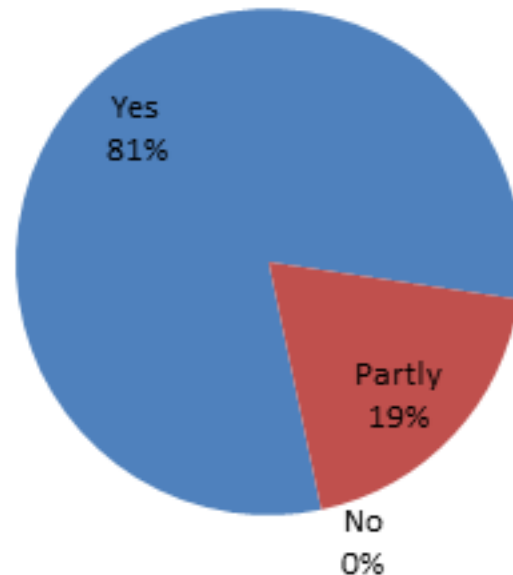
Appreciation of the Sessions



FEEDBACK ON SEMINARS

- Over 80% of the respondents answered 'yes' and the remainder answered 'partly'. This was a significant improvement compared with the earlier FOT-Net project which had itself been deemed to have been a success.

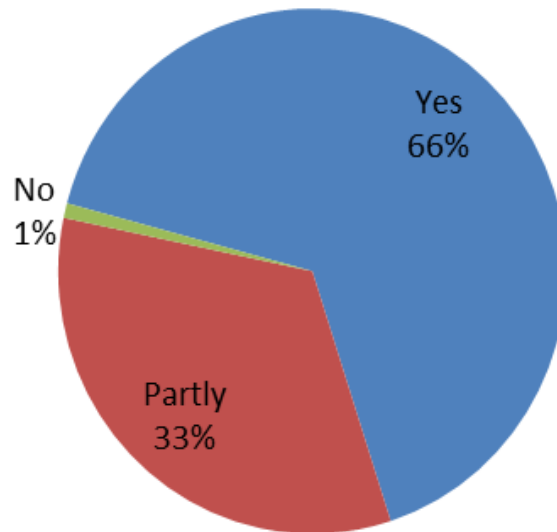
Were Your Expectations Met?



FEEDBACK ON SEMINARS

- Two thirds of respondents said the seminar had been useful, the rest said 'partly'. The latter is believed to be a reflection of the fact that frequently, the whole seminar programme would not have been directly relevant to every individual.

Was the Seminar Useful?



OBSERVATIONS ON SEMINAR FEEDBACK

- The numbers attending seminars and who provided feedback, whilst good, do not support statistically reliable findings!

Nonetheless:

- Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive (though maybe people are too polite to say what they don't like?!)
- Interactive sessions within seminars and workshops were particularly welcomed and productive
- The seminars produced valuable interactions between participants and contributed significantly to joint-learning and to the revision of FESTA

HOW TO CONTINUE IN FOT-NET DATA

- Organisation of six webinars (different parts of FESTA), especially designed for new users or those who want to become familiar with the methodology;
- Creation of e-learning modules used for self-study;
- Organisation of four hands-on workshops (based on the inputs from other WPs and stakeholders);
- Organisation of an extra workshop on revision of the FESTA handbook to consolidate all inputs from the project.

THANK YOU!

For more info:

- Full reports and deliverables can be found in the project library: <http://www.fot-net.eu/en/library/library.htm>
- Or contact me:
 - Institute for Transport Studies, University of Leeds
 - Email: H.Chen@its.leeds.ac.uk
 - Tel: (+44) (0)113-343-5355