

The Transportation Consortium of South-Central States (Tran-SET) - a University Transportation Research Center in Region 6 - is beginning its solicitation of research problem statements. These problems will contribute to the center's mission to **“support all phases of research, technology transfer, workforce development, and outreach activities of emerging technologies that can solve transportation challenges in Region 6”**. We welcome both applied and theoretical problem statements that address the center research focus areas (Area 4: Improving durability and extending the life of the infrastructure; Area 5: Preserving the environment; Area 6: Preserving the existing transportation system and region 6 Regional priorities). The center's objectives are:

- **Objective 1:** Extend the life of the existing transportation infrastructure through the application of emerging technologies in materials and construction;
- **Objective 2:** Promote sustainability and resiliency of the transportation infrastructure renewal and upgrade;
- **Objective 3:** Introduce and implement cost-effective solutions to the transportation infrastructure backlog of projects;
- **Objective 4:** Develop cost-effective solutions for the construction and maintenance of the transportation infrastructure in metropolitan and rural areas;
- **Objective 5:** Enhance the resiliency of the transportation infrastructure in the event of extreme weather events; and
- **Objective 6:** Promote workforce development through learning and continuous education.

To meet the center's mission, the proposers should plan to allocate six months after completion of the technical phases of the project for implementation, education and work force development, and technology transfer activities. In addition, at least 10% of the funding requested shall be allocated for these activities and can only be spent during the implementation phase.

The research problem statements will be ranked by their potential benefits and the eventual impacts on workforce training, and educational activities that focus on the evaluation and implementation of advanced technologies in the transportation industry. The center highly encourages collaboration among region 6 academic institutions. Therefore, priority will be given to projects that involves collaboration between at least two institutions.

Please distribute this solicitation and the attached form to appropriate personnel within your institution. Research problem statements should be submitted to TranSET@lsu.edu by January 31st 2017.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Center Director by phone at (225) 578-9189 or e-mail at TranSET@lsu.edu for any questions or assistance in completing the problem statement forms.



Tran-SET

Problem Statement Solicitation

1. Problem Title:

(Give a succinct and appropriate name to the proposed problem)

2. Problem Statement:

(Describe the proposed problem to be addressed and how it impacts research, education, workforce development, and outreach)

i. Research Focus Area

- Area 4: Improving durability and extending the life of the infrastructure;
- Area 5: Preserving the environment;
- Area 6: Preserving the existing transportation system
- Other Regional priorities

ii. Relevance to the Mission/Vision of the Center

iii. Describe the Impacts on Regional Priorities (Region 6)

3. Technical Objectives and Research Methodology:

(Describe the suggested approach to solve the problem)

4. Expected Deliverables

(What are the project outcomes, e.g., report, product, software)

5. Potential Implementation and Benefits:

(Describe how the results of the study will be implemented and the expected benefits for the transportation community. Statements with a significant implementation potential will be prioritized)

i. Intellectual merit?

ii. Workforce development?

iii. Supporting outreach activities?

iv. Education?

6. Submitted by:

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Email/Phone Number: _____