

# African Development Bank's Africa Transport Forum | 2024

Side event

## A COLLABORATIVE APPROACH FOR SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT PROJECTS IN AFRICA

Knowledge Day, 20 September 2024, 9h00 – 12h30

Location: Sofitel Abidjan Bd Hassan II, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire



EUROPEAN  
INTERNATIONAL  
CONTRACTORS

INDUSTRY  
FEDERATION  
SINCE 1970



CICA, EIC and DRBF are partnering to organize a side event at the African Development Bank (AfDB)'s Africa Transport Forum (ATF).

The central theme of the workshop will be how to procure and execute sustainable transport projects in Africa with a multi-stakeholders perspective. It would aim at promoting a new procurement approach for more efficiency in terms of Value for Money and time to deliver resilient infrastructure, considering the whole life cycle of the projects and implementing mechanisms to avoid disputes.

A first panel would present and discuss the new procurement methods for sustainability especially in the case of large complex cross-border projects. The workshop can also be an opportunity to showcase the latest technologies developed by the contractors and have some networking opportunities including with local contractors. Finally, the possibility to have on-site dispute resolution board members is also a way to have more successful projects and a focus will be made on the trainings available or to be developed for local experts.

### **9h00 – 9h30: Opening remarks**

### **9h30 – 10h30: Promoting Sustainable Procurement for Transport Projects in Africa**

CICA and EIC are private sector partners engaged in a close dialogue with the Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs). CICA and EIC are attending on a regular basis the Heads of Procurement meetings of the MDBs to discuss their procurement policies updates. It was also agreed recently that CICA/EIC and the World Bank would launch a joint working group to work on the implementation of Rated criteria for the procurement of World Bank-financed projects. As a response to this fundamental policy shift of the World Bank, which announced to require as of September 2023 the use of Rated Criteria as the default approach for most international procurements, EIC has published in collaboration with the European Federation of Engineering Consultancy Associations (EFCA), a new 'Toolkit for the Procurement of Sustainable Infrastructure' which will be presented. This session would also provide a forum for discussion about how the AfDB intends to align with the Paris Agreement and how contractors can contribute to develop infrastructure resilient to climate change and provide climate adaptation solutions.

### **10h30 – 11h00: Coffee break & networking**

### **11h00 – 11h45: Contractors' sustainable solutions for Quality Infrastructure in Africa**

As the African Development Bank is in a process of identifying long term partners for sustainable transport infrastructure<sup>1</sup>, major contractors would come up with innovative solutions for sustainable transport projects in Africa. Opening up rural areas, developing territories, preserving the environment, all necessities that require rethinking transport infrastructure and supporting the emergence of new mobility solutions. Sustainable road maintenance would be also a key item of the session. CICA/EIC would gather a panel of contractors (including locally based contractors) to present their latest innovations and experience in Africa.

### **11h45 – 12h30: Use of agile on-site dispute resolution for Transport projects in Africa**

On-site dispute resolution solutions are now widely integrated in the procurement practice of most development bank, funding partners and national authorities worldwide.

The aim of these solutions is to promote early resolution of any disputes, but also and primordially anticipation and avoidance of such disputes. Building on the capacity of neutral practitioners (adjudicators, Dispute Board members), who bring together their knowledge and experience of technical projects, project controls tools, contract management and dispute resolution, dispute boards (DBs) foster common sense for on-site dispute resolution

solutions and aim at an agile support in achieving timely and budget-effective delivery of project, at the satisfaction of all project stakeholders. The Dispute Resolution Board Foundation (DRBF) will present the successes, adaptations and future of DBs for the Western Africa transportation sector: DBs in Transport Projects in Africa; Role of MDBs, in that case the African Development Bank, in making DBs efficient; Need to train local dispute board members; Roadmap for DBs in Western Africa.

**14:00-16:00: DRBF Workshop: Presentation on the use of Dispute Boards – in French**

**This workshop is focused on Dispute Boards (DBs) / International and multinational practice with binding decisions and is designed for those new to the DB process, interested in serving on DBs, and those implementing DBs for the first time. It will be delivered only in French.**

It aims at exploring the basic tenets of the Dispute Board (DB) process:

- Introduction to DBs
- Selection and appointment of DB members
- Site visits and meetings
- Informal Assistance and Decisions
- Enforcement of DB Decisions

Link to register: [2024.09 DRBF Workshop AFDB R2 September French](#)

**The Confederation of International Contractors'Associations (CICA)** is a non-profit organization founded in Tokyo in 1974 with headquarters in Paris, France. Its mission is to serve, promote and highlight the image of the construction industry around the world. It seeks to reduce the infrastructure gap in the world, improving the people's quality of life. CICA gathers associations of contractors of any sizes from all around the globe. CICA is liaising with the development finance institutions and main providers of contracts such as FIDIC or NEC.

**The European International Contractors (EIC)** is a European industry association founded in 1970 that has as its full members national construction industry associations from fourteen European countries. EIC represents the collective interests of internationally active European contractors towards the EU, international organisations, international financing institutions and society at large. EIC maintains the dialogue with international and other relevant organisations in order to improve the political, financial, economic and legal environment for the international construction business of European contractors. In this context, EIC advocates fair international competition and balanced contract conditions, value-for-money procurement, innovative project delivery schemes and sustainable construction methods.

**The Dispute Resolution Board Foundation (DRBF)**, is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the avoidance and resolution of disputes worldwide using the unique and proven Dispute Board (DB) method. The DRBF was incorporated in Wisconsin, USA in 1996 by a small group of visionaries who saw the need for a better way of dispute resolution on construction projects. The DRBF was born to bring an alternative method of dispute resolution through the innovative use of Dispute Boards to projects worldwide. This process has rapidly grown across the globe and spawned various other alternative dispute resolution methods, with the emphasis on dispute avoidance.

<sup>1</sup> <https://infratech.github.org/call-sustainable-road-solutions/>