



March 18, 2025

Road Bureau, Planning Division

## First International Workshop on Quality Road Infrastructure Development in Collaboration with the United Nations

~Promoting the Importance of Sustainable and Resilient Road Development in Light of Climate Change and Aging Infrastructure Trends~

From March 4 to 6, 2025, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT) hosted its first "International Workshop on Quality Road Infrastructure Development" at the United Nations University in collaboration with the United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD) of Division for Sustainable Development Goals/ United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DSDG/UN DESA). The workshop aimed to deepen understanding of high-quality road infrastructure in regions such as Asia-Pacific and Africa. Senior officials and administrators from the road sector in 12 countries participated, engaging in sessions on advanced technologies, field visits, as well as active exchanges of opinions and knowledge sharing.

The MLIT will continue to promote initiatives for the overseas deployment of high-quality road infrastructure.

This was the first joint project with UNCRD to promote high-quality road infrastructure globally.

### ■ Workshop Results Summary

- (1) Dates: Tuesday, March 4 to Thursday, March 6, 2025 (3 days)
- (2) Venue: United Nations University
- (3) Organizers: Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT), UNCRD
- (4) Participants: Senior officials and administrators in the road sector from 12 countries (\*)

※Cambodia, Kyrgyzstan, Kenya, Thailand, Turkey, Nepal, Bangladesh,  
Fiji, Philippines, Malaysia, Mongolia, Laos

### (5) Agenda (Please refer to the attached document for details)

#### (Day 1)

##### 1. Opening Session

(Masayoshi Hirose, Vice-Minister for Engineering Affairs, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism; Shigeo Murata, Head of UNCRD; Astra Bonini (Video), Chief, DSGD/UN DESA,)

- 2. Keynote Address (Yoshitsugu Hayashi, Distinguished Professor, Tokai Gakuen University; Former President, World Conference on Transport Research Society (WCTRS))
- 3. Presentations by Participants from Various Countries, Roundtable Discussion
- 4. Session on Financing Green Road Infrastructure (ADB, JICA)

#### (Day 2)

##### 1. Session on Advanced Road Paving Technologies (Japan Road Construction Association)

##### 2. Session on Advanced Concrete Structures Technology

(Japan Prestressed Concrete Contractors Association)

##### 3. Site Visit (Tokyo Gaikan Expressway, Oizumi JCT, etc.)

### (Day 3)

1. Session on Advanced Steel Bridge Technology (Japan Bridge Association)
2. Session on Advanced Operation and Maintenance of Expressways (NEXCO Three Companies)
3. Special Session by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (Shinichiro Nagao, Director for International Affairs, Planning Division, Road Bureau, MLIT)
4. Closing Remarks (Masamichi Hashimoto, Assistant Vice Minister for Technology and Roads), Minister's Secretariat; Shigeo Murata, Head of UNCRD)

## ■Workshop Results

### (Day 1)

1. Opening Session
  - Murata, Head of UNCRD, delivered his inaugural address and declared the workshop open.
  - Astra Bonini, Chief of DSGD/UN DESA, explained the purpose of this workshop (Video address).
  - Hirose, Vice-Minister for Engineering Affairs, emphasized the importance of high-quality road infrastructure and expressed his expectations for the workshop.
2. Keynote Address (Yoshitsugu Hayashi, Distinguished Professor, Tokai Gakuen University; Former President, World Conference on Transport Research Society (WCTRS))
  - Based on the recognition that we are entering an era of "shifting focus from national GDP to individual QOL," enabling evaluation of the SDGs' "leave no one behind" principle while considering environmental sustainability, disaster resilience, stages of urban development, and smart growth/smart shrinkage, a new concept was proposed: "Quality Road as a System" to ensure spatial order and QOL.
3. Presentations and Roundtable Discussions by Participants from Various Countries
  - Participants from each country shared information on the challenges they face in the road sector.
4. Session on financing green road infrastructure (Asian Development Bank (ADB), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA))
  - The ADB introduced its "Green Roads Toolkit," a collection of best practices aimed at sharing technologies and knowledge that contribute to the development and maintenance of sustainable and environmentally friendly roads.
  - JICA shared its knowledge on cooperation in Quality Road Infrastructure Development that takes into account the effects of climate change in island countries and snowy, cold regions.

### (Day 2)

1. Session on Advanced Road Paving Technologies (Japan Road Contractors Association)
  - Taisei Rotec Corporation shared insights on recycled asphalt pavement and other technologies contributing to resource circulation and decarbonization.
  - NIPPO CORPORATION shared insights on environmentally friendly paving technologies, such as low-noise and heat-shielding pavement.
  - The Nippon Road Co., Ltd. shared insights on the development of paving materials for decarbonization, such as biochar asphalt.
  - Maeda Road Construction Co., Ltd. shared insights on water-activated cold asphalt paving materials and other technologies.
  - GAEART Co., LTD. shared insights on new technologies for multifunctional, highly durable pavements, such as drainage and waterproofing.

- Sakai Heavy Industries, Ltd. shared insights on road stabilizers and pavement rehabilitation technologies.

2. Session on Advanced Concrete Structure Technologies (Japan Prestressed Concrete Contractors Association)
- Kajima Corporation shared insights on the Kawachi River Bridge project, a steel-concrete composite structure.
- Sumitomo Mitsui Construction Co., Ltd. shared insights on the Nakatsugawa Bridge project, which adopted an extradosed bridge design.
3. Site Visit (Tokyo Gaikan Expressway, Oizumi Junction, etc.)
- Site inspections were conducted to observe domestic technologies such as bridge superstructures and shield tunnel boring machines.

(Day 3)

1. Session on Advanced Steel Bridge Technologies (Japan Bridge Association)
  - Yokogawa Bridge Corp. shared insights on cutting-edge Japanese technologies for steel bridges.
2. Session on Advanced Expressway Operation and Maintenance (Three NEXCO Companies)
  - Central Nippon Expressway Company Limited shared insights on highway O&M overviews and tunnel facilities.
  - West Nippon Expressway Company Limited shared insights on bridge inspections and renewal projects.
  - East Nippon Expressway Company Limited shared insights on traffic control measures based on rainfall conditions.
3. Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism Special Session (Shinichiro Nagao, Director for International Affairs, Planning Division, Road Bureau, MLIT)
  - Shared insights on MLIT's initiatives to introduce advanced technologies for building a sustainable and resilient road network (including the Comprehensive Evaluation Method).
4. Closing
  - Hashimoto, Assistant Vice Minister, expressed his hope that the insights gained from this seminar, jointly organized by the MLIT and UNCRD, would contribute to the development of policies in participating countries in the Asia-Pacific and African regions through collaboration.
  - Murata, Head of UNCRD, expressed gratitude to the workshop participants and declared the session closed.



Opening Remarks  
(Shigeo Murata, Head of UNCRD)



Opening Remarks (Masayoshi Hirose, Vice-Minister for Engineering Affairs, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism)



Keynote Address (Yoshitsugu Hayashi, Distinguished Professor, Tokai Gakuen University; Former President, World Conference on Transport Research Society (WCTRS))



Opening Session Group Photo



Roundtable Discussion



Site Visit (Tokyo Gaikan Expressway, Oizumi Junction)



Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism Special Session  
(Shinichiro Nagao, Director for International Affairs, Planning Division,  
Road Bureau)



Closing Remarks (Masamichi Hashimoto,  
Assistant Vice Minister (Engineering and  
Road), Ministry of Land, Infrastructure,  
Transport and Tourism



Closing Remarks (Shigeo Murata, Head of  
UNCRD)