

# **Better governance for investment in transport infrastructure**

**Hall 1, Level +1**

**Thursday, 1 June 2017**

**14:30 - 16:00**

In this panel session, high-level decision makers across government and the private sector discussed major issues of strategic planning under evolving goals and how to involve the private sector in infrastructure development. Such governance arrangements play a critical role in determining user satisfaction and affordability of transport infrastructure. If decision-makers work within a strong governance framework, infrastructure will contribute to economic productivity and individual well-being by giving access to health, education, jobs, leisure and markets. Under poor governance arrangements, communities may suffer from lost opportunities due to underinvestment, inappropriate infrastructure or costly projects that divert resources from other valuable uses.

There was a common view among stakeholders that significant investment was required in transport infrastructure. There are twin imperatives: responding to climate change and encouraging economic growth under the influence of new technology. In Canada, climate change is actually degrading transport assets by changing access to “ice roads” and shortening bridge lives. In Paris the policy emphasis has shifted towards greater emphasis of public transport prompting a large scale investment in metro and tram systems, particularly in suburban areas (The Grand Paris Express). Many participants stressed the on-going role for roads as a driver of growth and providing last-mile connections for all other modes.

Panellists argued that any individual government’s budget was not able to finance all the spending required to meet infrastructure investment demands. Public sector collaboration and private sector involvement were seen as critical to make progress. In Norway, the national government is putting urban growth agreements in place with city governments to direct co-investments towards compact transit-oriented developments. The European Investment Bank is looking for opportunities to find co-investment partners across Europe to deliver on ambitious transport investment aims in the Juncker Plan. All panellists were seeking mechanisms to involve the private sector in project development and taking on real risk and equity stakes in these projects. Sharing knowledge across countries on success and risk factors was seen as a strong strategy to ensure good value for money from private involvement in infrastructure.

## **Related Information:**

[Ex-Post Assessment of Transport Investments and Policy Interventions](#)

[The Regulatory Asset Base and Project Finance Models: An Analysis of Incentives for Efficiency](#)

[ITF work related to infrastructure](#)

[Strategic Infrastructure Planning: International Best Practice](#)

[OECD report: Getting Infrastructure Right: A framework for better governance](#)

[OECD report: The Role of Economic Regulators in the Governance of Infrastructure](#)

[Société du Grand Paris: The ambition of a world city](#)

[Société du Grand Paris: Map of Grand Paris Express](#)

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## Speaker



**Lluís Deulofeu**

Managing Director

**Sanef**

Mr Deulofeu leads Abertis' French motorway concession business. He is also currently holding other positions that are relevant for the panel, such as Vice President of the Catalan Foundation for Research and Innovation, and member of managing committees at Invercaixa Management, or the Barcelona Digital Foundation, among others. Previously, he has been Internal Resources and Efficiency Managing Director of Abertis (2011-2014), Executive Director of Information Services "La Caixa" (2001-2011) and Director of Technology Services and Development of New Projects at Acesa (1994-2001). As well as Senior manager at Andersen Consultin, and responsible for the technology area of the Barcelona office (1988-1994) in La Caixa (1979-1988) – Telefonica (1978 – 1979). His background is Senior Telecommunications Engineer (by the Universitat Politechnic of Catalonia) and holds several Management trainings by ESADE and IESE, business schools.

**Speaker****Reynir Jóhannesson**

State Secretary, Ministry  
of Transport and  
Communications

**Norway**

Mr. Jóhannesson was appointed State Secretary in June 2015. Previously, he was Political Advisor to Minister Solvik-Olsen, Communications Advisor at Nucleus AS, Advisor in Digital Media for the Progress Party's Parliamentary Group, and worked in corporate banking with Landsbanki, Iceland. Mr. Jóhannesson was elected to the city council in Sandefjord from 2003 to 2005. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from the University of Iceland.

**Speaker****Michael Keenan**

Deputy Minister of  
Transport

**Canada**

Michael Keenan was appointed Canadian Deputy Minister of Transport in 2016. He has extensive experience in management, engagement, economic analysis and policy development in the Government of Canada. Prior to working at Transport Canada, he served as Associate Deputy Minister at Natural Resources Canada.

**Speaker****Pim van Ballekom**

Vice President

**European Investment  
Bank**

Pim van Ballekom was appointed Vice President of the European Investment Bank in January 2012. His responsibilities include transport and transport infrastructure (TTI) including TEN-T, financing of natural resources and agribusiness / Bio-Economy, financing operations in the BENELUX, Turkey and ACP-OCT policies and financing operations in ACP countries and OCTs (except West Africa and the Pacific) and the Republic of South Africa. He is also Governor of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Mr. Van Ballekom has held many roles including Head of Cabinet of European Commissioner Bolkestein responsible for Internal Market, Taxation and Customs Union Head, Netherlands Director at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), head of International Public Affairs at APG Pension Group, Financial Counsellor and Head of the Financial Section at the Permanent Representation of the Netherlands at the EU, and various positions within the Ministry of Finance in the Netherlands. Pim van Ballekom holds a Master's and a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Leiden.

**Speaker**

**Claude Van Rooten**  
President  
**World Road  
Association (PIARC)**

Claude Van Rooten was elected as President of the World Road Association in January 2017, having been Director General of the Belgian Road Research Centre for 17 years. He was member of the Executive Committee from 2005 to 2012 and Chair of the Communications Commission from 2009 to 2012. He is an honorary member of the Association since 2013. He obtained his Civil Engineer Degree at the Université libre de Bruxelles. He is Director General of the Belgian Road Research Centre since 17 years and Lecturer at the Université Libre de Bruxelles.

**Speaker**

**Philippe Yvin**  
Chairman of the Board  
**Société du Grand Paris**

Before being appointed as Chairman of the Executive Board of the Société du Grand Paris in 2014, Philippe Yvin served as Advisor to the French Prime Minister on local authorities and decentralisation (2014-2014). He also served as Secretary General of the National Council of Cities (1989-1990) and was Director of Delinquency Prevention at the Inter-Ministerial Delegation for the City's Urban and Social Development (1990-1991). Prior to taking up his position as Chief of the Civilian Cabinet of the Minister of Defence (1997-1998) and Director of the Cabinet of the City's Delegate (1989-2002) he also served as Secretary General of the Prefecture of Haute-Corse (1993-1995) and as Head of the Prefect's Office in Essonne (1995-1997). He was appointed as Secretary General of the Commission for the preparation of the Environmental Charter in 2003, before heading the French departments of Oise (2004-2008) and Seine-Saint-Denis (2008-2012).

**Moderator**

**Axel Threlfall**  
Editor-at-Large  
**Reuters**

Axel Threlfall is Editor-at-Large, Reuters, based in London. Alongside his editorial duties, he hosts high-profile engagements and thought leadership events for and on behalf of Reuters and Thomson Reuters, such as the Newsmaker series and the World Economic Forum news programs in Davos. He was previously Lead European Anchor for Reuters Digital Video. Prior to joining Reuters, Axel spent four years as an anchor for CNBC in London. Before that, he was an editor with The Wall Street Journal in New York and a news reporter for Bloomberg in London. He has also advised businesses and NGOs on their dealings with the international media. Axel is frequently asked to moderate events for international organizations, including the United Nations and the OECD. He has a BA in History from Durham University and a postgraduate degree in journalism from City University, London.

