# Cross-cutting activities for implementing the sub-theme programme

Cross-cutting activities in the Sustainable Surface Transport Work Programme 2012 support the achievement of an integrated surface transport system across activities, common to all surface transport modes, to help meet the three socio-economic Challenges.

SST.2012.6-1. ERA-NET ‘Transport III’

***Call: FP7-ERANET-2012-RTD (see Annex 4)***

**Content and scope:** The aim of this initiative will be to continue to strengthen the foundation of the European Research Area for surface transport through coordination and cooperation of national and regional research programmes. Activities will include: exchange of information and knowledge, implementation of joint activities and trans-national research. The partnership will be composed of representatives from national and regional authorities responsible for the programming of transport research and implementing research on transport.

Care should be taken to ensure synergies with the activities carried out in ERA-NET ‘Transport’ and ERA-NET ‘Transport II’.

ERA-NET ‘Transport III’ will aim at:

* Broadening the geographical scope by the inclusion of new members from national and regional programmes whose transport research potential needs to be developed.
* Supporting cooperation of national/regional transport research programmes.
* Testing and exploitation of further large-scale cooperation such as ERA-Net Plus or further innovative means that are feasible for public research programmes.
* Fostering a more intensive cooperation of national/regional programmes and the EU’s Framework Programme.
* Structuring of public funding through an increased complementary effect and concentration of efforts towards common aims, this effort will be supported by the creation of a knowledge based system on national and regional transport research programmes.
* Supporting the ERA for Transport by enhancing the visibility of nationally/regionally financed research in the frame of suitable European conferences, ideally in the context of a multimodal European transport conference.

**Expected impact:** It is expected that further coordination efforts in the area of sustainable surface transport will consolidate the initiated process of identifying major research needs, extending the partnership, making better use of scarce resources and avoiding double funding, reducing fragmentation of research efforts at national and regional level. Ultimately, the cooperation shall lead to a self-sustainable and long-lasting network of funders in the surface transport area.