The MATISSE (Methodology for Assessment of Transport Impact on Social Exclusion) project is developing a practical tool which will assist local authorities across Europe to develop appropriate transport strategies to help combat social exclusion.

A methodology and assessment framework is being developed by MATISSE's team of transport and social exclusion experts. The 18-month project will validate this framework against local transport plans, national action plans to combat social exclusion, the European Social Policy Agenda and the Common Transport Policy. The MATISSE methodology will be tested in pilot studies in Merseyside and Rome.

The project is supported with a grant from the European Commission Directorate General for Employment and Social Affairs as a Preparatory Action to combat social exclusion.
THE PROBLEMS

Poor accessibility, poor services and the high cost of transport often limit the mobility of many people. The groups identified as being most at risk are:

- those who are disabled or simply frail;
- those on a low income;
- ethnic and religious minorities;
- certain groups of women; and
- teenagers and young adults.

Limited mobility can lead, in turn, to reduced life chances for employment, training, education, social enjoyment, healthcare, participation in the community and participation in cultural activities.

There is often little direct engagement with socially excluded groups when consulting on transport plans. In addition, there are often inadequate local transport professional skills to address the social exclusion issues and evaluate outcomes.

http://www.matisse-eu.com

MATISSE

THE ISSUES

Transport and social policy agencies need to work together in close co-operation. This co-operation will ensure more accessible jobs, services and facilities for the more marginalised members of society.

Transport planning agencies will need to consider:

- To what extent do local transport policies increase social exclusion?
- How can local transport policies help to achieve greater social inclusion?
- How will the effectiveness of local transport policies be monitored and evaluated against social inclusion targets?

http://www.matisse-eu.com

MATISSE

THE WAY FORWARD

MATISSE provides an assessment package, tailored to national planning requirements. It includes:

- A state of the art review on the contribution of transport to social inclusion, giving best practice examples;
- Advice on consulting socially excluded groups;
- An evaluation framework to assess the current transport needs of socially excluded groups;
- Advice on the development of integrated transport policy options to redress social exclusion and to analyse the expected policy impacts; and
- A monitoring framework to assess the effectiveness of the introduced measures.

http://www.matisse-eu.com

MATISSE

MATISSE

MATISSE

MATISSE

MATISSE