

Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands
CSC PhD 2015 Project Description

School/Department:	Erasmus University Rotterdam Erasmus Smart Port Rotterdam / Department of Public Administration in cooperation with other faculties at EUR
Project Title:	Sustainable port development; a comparative study on how to operationalize harmonious development of port and its surroundings
Abstract:	<p>An efficient transport system is a crucial precondition for economic development and an asset in local, regional and international mobility. The growing demand for freight transport at the global level is governed by a complex interaction between: economic growth, changes in industrial structure for freight transport, and new land use patterns. In the mean time we see that the external environment in which the port has to operate is rapidly changing. There are new opportunities, but there are also serious concerns about environmental effects, including climate change and the availability of (fossil-based) energy. There is a growing awareness of the need to develop ports as global hubs and as industrial clusters in a sustainable way.</p> <p>The development of sustainable transport systems requires an alternative approach which incorporates a rethinking of the present situation and which meets the urgent need to make a transition to the desired state. Transition management is the process that tries to address this challenge. It requires clear and innovative thinking about the role transport can (and should) play in modern societies.</p> <p>We focus in this research cooperation on three elements where interdisciplinary and inter-faculty port research will be executed via Erasmus Smart Port Rotterdam. ESPR (Rotterdam) has a partnership with the Shanghai International Shipping Institute - SISI (Shanghai).</p> <p>A. Sustainability; the meaning of the concept for port development</p> <p>What is meant by sustainable port development? Governments and other stakeholders are generally aware that policy measures are needed to find a balance between accessibility and sustainability. This is an enormous challenge, and the question arises: How can this be materialized in 2 different systems <i>What can we learn from each other, because sustainable development distinguishes several, sometimes seemingly opposing, goals, which hence makes it a very difficult task to find synergy between these different goals?</i></p>

	<p>B. Harmonious port development</p> <p>The current transport policy is mainly formulated by means of the traditional "government" approach, including certain optimism about the effects of technology. The sense of urgency of this mobility policy is driven primarily through specific decisiveness priorities, the need to address the negative external effects of transportation and to come to a (more) sustainable transport system. At the same time, there seems to be slowly, but quite clearly, attention for a new governance approach.</p> <p>The challenge is to develop a pro-active methodology that addresses the economic (profit), environmental (planet), and social objectives (people) in one coherent strategy, while also inviting for prospective and long term thinking. Moreover, it is necessary to recognize the need for cooperation and interaction between the government, private firms and civil society to fulfil the changing needs of society. Rresearch questions are: <i>what are future development strategies towards a sustainable port development? What are the different opportunities in China and Rotterdam?</i></p> <p>C. The port and it surrounding</p> <p>A Port area is an area of major economic importance. Most freight is transported by road, but increasing congestion lengthens travel time considerably. Air pollution and noise put pressure on the quality of life in the region are impacts on the regional environment. One could think of many different solutions. The central research questions is: <i>What governmental action is needed to come to more efficient policy making in complex situations?</i></p>
Requirements of candidate:	<p>Bachelor & Master degree: Yes (<i>in the same or relevant field</i>)</p> <p>Background: Motivated student with a background in transport economics or public administration. The student should have an interested in the governance of complex systems and knowledge about the Dutch transport system and policies in relation to inland shipping</p> <p>Good oral and written comprehension and expression of English.</p> <p>IELTS Grade: 7.0 (<i>minimal 6.0 per component</i>)</p> <p>TOEFL: 100 (<i>minimal 20 per component</i>)</p>



Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands
CSC PhD 2015 Project Description

	GMAT/GRE: <i>(if applicable)</i>
Supervisor information:	<p>Prof. dr. Harry Geerlings Geerlings@fsw.eur.nl</p> <p>Harry Geerlings is Professor in the governance of sustainable mobility at the Department of Public Administration of the Erasmus University Rotterdam and a member of Erasmus Smart Port Rotterdam.</p> <p>Based on the quality of his work he is a recognised staff member of the PhD/schools TRAIL and NIG based on criteria formulated by the Royal Academy of Sciences. See also: http://www.eur.nl/fsw/bestuurskunde/profiles/profiel_mis/9639</p>