



AASHTO Center for Environmental Excellence

January 22
TRB Annual Meeting



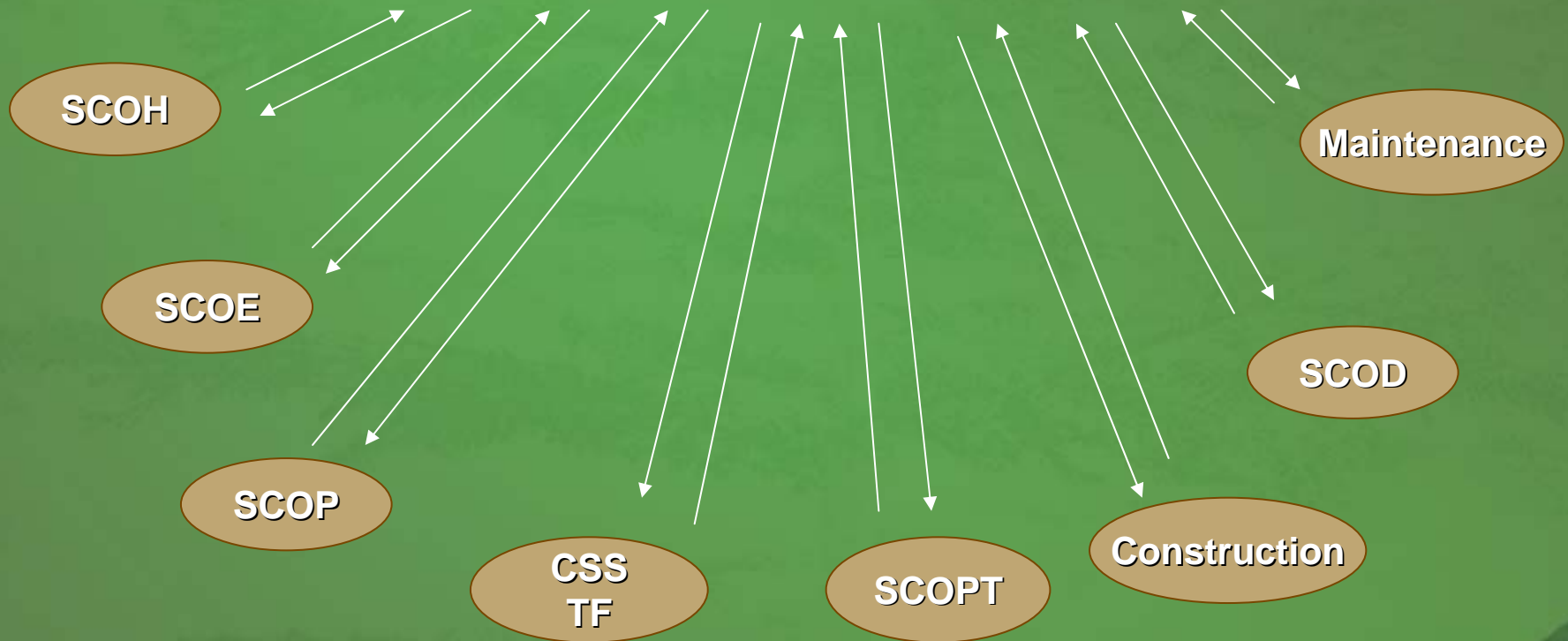
AASHTO CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE

- **MISSION: PROMOTE ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE IN THE EFFICIENT DELIVERY OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES**
- **VISION: MEMBER STATES HAVE THE TOOLS AND AWARENESS NECESSARY TO BE EXCELLENT STEWARDS OF THE ENVIRONMENT IN CARRYING OUT THEIR MISSIONS**



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Center of Environmental Excellence



**American Association of State
Highway and Transportation Officials**



Center

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graph TD; Center[Center] --- InformationSharing[Information Sharing]; Center --- Training[Training]; Center --- TechnicalAssistance[Technical Assistance];
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**Information
Sharing**

Training

**Technical
Assistance**

CENTER WEB SITE

environment.transportation.org

- **New updated and reorganized site**
 - **Improved search function**
 - **User feedback mechanism**
 - **Photo gallery**
 - **E-mail feature to notify users of web site updates**



AASHTO Center for Environmental Excellence

One Stop Source of Environmental Information for Transportation Professionals

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Environmental Issues

- [Air Quality](#)
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About The Center

The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Center for Environmental Excellence has been developed in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration to promote environmental stewardship and to encourage innovative ways to streamline the transportation delivery process. The Center is designed to serve as a resource for transportation professionals seeking technical assistance, training, information exchange, partnership-building opportunities, and quick and easy access to environmental tools.

[Learn More about The Center »](#)

Technical Experts Program

The AASHTO Center for Environmental Excellence Technical Assistance Program offers a team of highly qualified and experienced experts on-call and ready to assist transportation and environmental agency officials in improving environmental performance and program delivery. The team members individually or as a team supply strategic environmental analysis and focused environmental management technical advice through short-term assignments.

[Learn More about the Technical Experts Program »](#)

Center Products & Programs

- [2005 DOT-Funded Positions Report](#)
- [2005 Context-Sensitive Solutions Competition](#)
- [2004 Smart Growth Competition](#)
- [2003 Best Practices in Environmental Stewardship Competition](#)
- [2002 Smart Growth Competition](#)
- [Environmental Management Systems Products](#)
- [Managing the NEPA Process for Complex Projects Workshop](#)
- [Programmatic Agreement Toolkit - A How to Guide](#)
- [Taking the High Road Report](#)

CENTER WEB SITE

- **New Information**
 - **Environmental Justice**
 - **Invasive Species**
 - **Air Toxics**
 - **Tribal Consultations**
 - **Additional State Success Stories**



TRAINING

- **Workshop on SAFETEA LU implementation**
- **Problem Solving Meetings**
 - **Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultation Process**
 - **National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Process**



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- Experts available to assist states with environmental matters on either a project or system-wide level
- Expert biographies are located on the Center web site
- Selecting experts in additional topic areas



MAJOR INITIATIVES

Context Sensitive Solutions

- 2005 and 2006 Best Practices Competitions
- National Conference
- Peer-to-peer Training Program
- DOT Support for Liaisons at Resource and Regulatory Agencies



MAJOR INITIATIVES

(continued)

Environmental Stewardship Practices in Construction and Maintenance (NCHRP 25-25-04)

- **Compilation of 7,000 environmental practices employed by DOTs**
- **New web format**
- **NCHRP project to produce a library of best practices**
- **Regular document updates**



MAJOR INITIATIVES

(continued)

- **AASHTO Transportation Environmental Managements Systems Technical Assistance Program**
 - Pilot to assist states in the planning, development and implementation of an EMS
 - Technical assistance will be offered to all states after the pilot phase
- **Practitioner's Guides**



COMING ATTRACTIONS...

- **Programmatic Agreements Library**
 - **Categorical Exclusions**
 - **Section 106**
 - **Endangered Species**
 - **Land Management Services**
 - **Section 4 (f)**

- **Environmental Research Database**
 - **Organized, accessible digest of environmental research**



AVAILABLE CENTER PRODUCTS

- The “Taking the High Road” report, which documents environmental and social contributions of America’s highway programs
- A “how-to” guide and toolkit on developing and implementing programmatic agreements
- A report on DOT funded positions at resource agencies
- 2005 Best Practices in Context Sensitive Solutions Competition Report
- 2002 and 2004 Best Practices in Smart Growth Competition Reports
- 2003 Best Practices in Environmental Stewardship Competition Report
- EMS Implementation Guides and Workshop Presentations
- Documentation from the 2005 workshop, “Managing the NEPA Process for Complex Projects”



AASHTO ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ETAP)

- **Transportation/Environment Alert**
 - Weekly newsletter
 - 8th year of publication
 - Covers regulatory, legislative, and policy developments of federal agencies, Congress, and the private sector
 - Topics include environmental streamlining, SAFETEA-LU implementation, air quality, water quality and wetlands, historic preservation, endangered species, waste management, environmental justice and EMS



COMMENTS/INFORMATION

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