

# Preface and acknowledgements

---

This book presents the seventh volume in the Edward Elgar NECTAR Series on Transportation and Communications Networks Research. NECTAR (Network on European Communications and Transport Activities Research) is a European-based scientific association with the primary objective to foster research collaboration and exchange of information between experts in the field of transport, communication and mobility from all European countries and the rest of the world. It is a multidisciplinary social science network gathering a wide variety of perspectives on transport and communication problems and their impacts on society in an international perspective. This book clearly addresses these objectives by presenting chapters linking accessibility to social equity and economic efficiency analysis, incorporating a wide variety of perspectives.

Several contributions originate from the 12th NECTAR International Conference at the São Miguel Island, Azores (Portugal), in 2013. We then amplified the list of chapters by recruiting other internationally renowned authors active in accessibility research to share their work. We appreciate the authors' contributions and the attentiveness with which they addressed the peer reviewers' comments.

The quality of the chapters benefited from the timely and constructive comments received from the peer reviewers and we thank them for their efforts. Elisabete Martins from the University of the Azores provided invaluable editing support. Finally, we thank Alan Sturmer (Executive Editor, Edward Elgar Publishing) for his unwavering support to help organize this effort. We are excited to contribute with another book in the high-quality NECTAR series.

*Karst T. Geurs, Roberto Patuelli and Tomaz Ponce Dentinho*