Synthesis on Documenting and Tracking Research Implementation

The RAC Region II has initiated a collaborative research program consortium through the Transportation Pooled Fund (TPF) Program called the Southeast Transportation Consortium (STC), which is intended to encourage coordination among member states and provide resources and management of collaborative studies. The consortium intends to address high priority transportation research topics of common interest to the southeastern and adjoining states. Louisiana serves as the lead agency in the STC.

**PROBLEM**
The value and impact of any research project is in the implementation of its findings into the current state of practice. However, many research studies have been completed without any real impact on society or the economy. Formal guidelines for documenting and tracking research implementation are needed.

**OBJECTIVE**
The main objective of this synthesis project is to thoroughly review literature regarding documenting and tracking of research implementation. Based on this comprehensive review, best practices for documenting and tracking research implementation efforts/activities will be provided and formal guidelines will be developed.

**METHODOLOGY**
After the literature review, an online survey will be developed and sent to state DOTs and other U.S. agencies/institutions to identify examples of guidelines for documenting and tracking research implementation. Collected responses will be analyzed and summarized. Best practices will be compiled, and formal guidelines for documenting and tracking research implementation will be developed by the research team.

**IMPLEMENTATION POTENTIAL**
Project outcomes will provide formal guidelines for monitoring, documenting, and tracking research implementation efforts.