

An aerial photograph of a mountainous region covered in snow. Several winding roads or paths are visible, cutting through the white landscape. In the lower right corner, a small, dark-colored building is partially visible. The overall scene is bright and somewhat overexposed due to the snow.

Workshop # 3 Report

Winter Maintenance Management Strategies

March 27th 2006

Approach

- Identify some issues
- Note some key phrases associated with our topic
- Select an issue to examine in depth
- Develop ideas related to that issue
- Identify barriers to success
- Pose a challenge to the conference!

Issues

- Need information not data
- What types of information do we need?
- What are the organizational communication needs?
- What is the purpose of the system? Who is the main user?
- How do we measure system performance

More Issues

- Benefit-cost analyses
- Where does weather information fit in the system?
- Public agency vs. private contractor
- Different ways of contracting winter maintenance
- Road closings

Still More Issues

- Invest in better forecasts, or in better implementation of current information levels?
- On-vehicle technology
- Salt/material logistics
- Action recommendations
- Other...

Key Phrases

- Avoid Accidents
 - Ensure accessibility to the road
 - Regional and jurisdictional differences
 - A need for adaptability and flexinility
 - One size does NOT fit all
 - Documentation
 - Quality
 - System Performance
- Open and Safe
Roads

More Key Phrases

- Implementation of standards
- Financial Resources
- Planning
- Information Exchange
- Decision support
- Environmental impacts

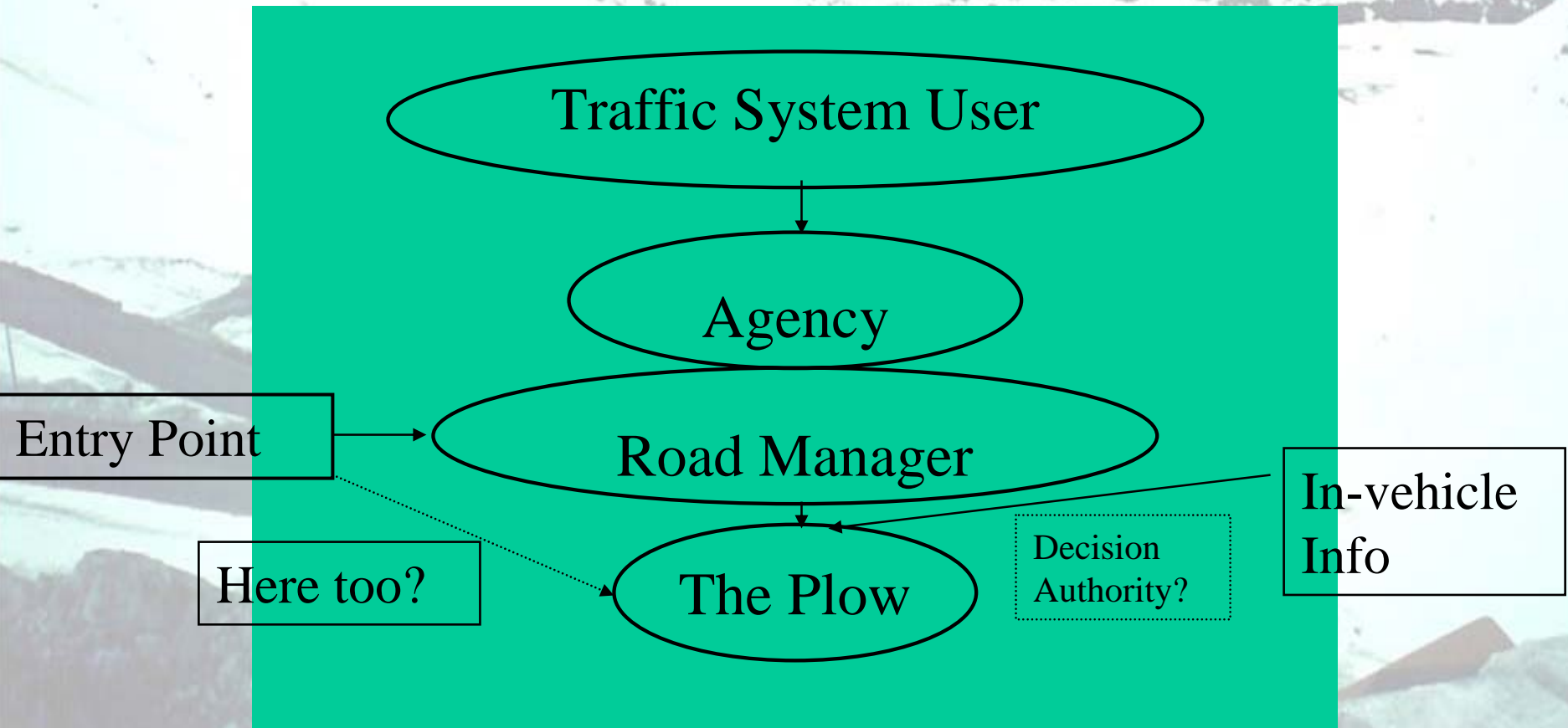
Key Issue

Who is the Main User of the system?

What is the Purpose of the system?

- Traffic manager and traffic flow
- Unit doing the work and decision support
- Road managers – but the information must flow through them and beyond
- Right action in the right way
- Minimize accidents and environmental effects

More on the Key Issue



Barriers to Success

- Politics
- Lack of knowledge
- Lack of passion
- Content of system/information type
- Financial
- Go/no-go decisions
- Driving population

An aerial photograph of a winding river flowing through a mountainous, forested landscape. The river is dark and contrasts with the lighter, greenish-brown terrain. The mountains are rugged and covered in dense vegetation. The overall scene is natural and somewhat desolate.

More Barriers

The perfect forecast

chaotic, dynamic, uncertain

Breaking the Barriers?

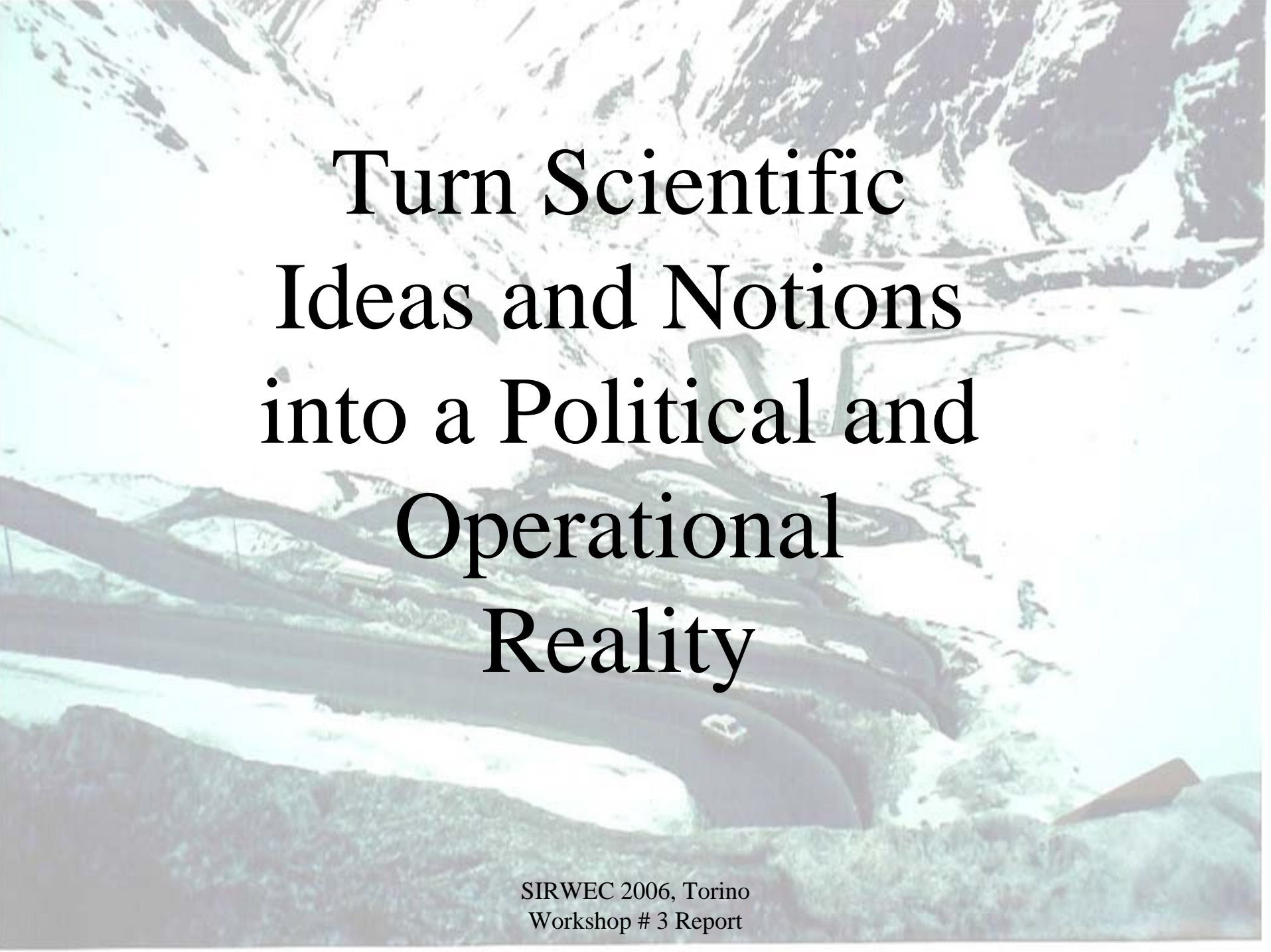
- Not just a job for the workshop team
- Instead, a job for all of us at SIRWEC
- So, we developed a list of challenges for us all to meet by Prague, 2008

SIRWEC

Your mission, should you choose to
accept it...

Is to address the following needs
and...

present the results of that effort in
Prague, 2008

An aerial photograph of a mountainous region. A winding road or path is visible, cutting through the terrain. A small, dark-colored building is situated on a rocky outcrop in the lower right. The overall scene is rugged and mountainous.

Turn Scientific Ideas and Notions into a Political and Operational Reality



Develop a Sales and Promotional Branch

Get media into winter and traffic centers during storms

Fund marketing campaigns and educational tools

Report on successful efforts in these areas

Address the Passion Issue

After all – *Passion Lives Here!*

Examine how to empower employees and
how to set the level of decision making
authority

Prepare plow operators both to make
decisions and to accept responsibility for
those decisions

Report on these efforts



Build a Virtual
Community to Develop
a Team-Based
Approach to Winter
Road Problems

SIRWEC 2006, Torino
Workshop # 3 Report




Provide cost figures for winter maintenance to
the public

Both direct and indirect, both costs and
benefits

Link maintenance actions, weather, accidents,
delays together

How do we normalize all of this?

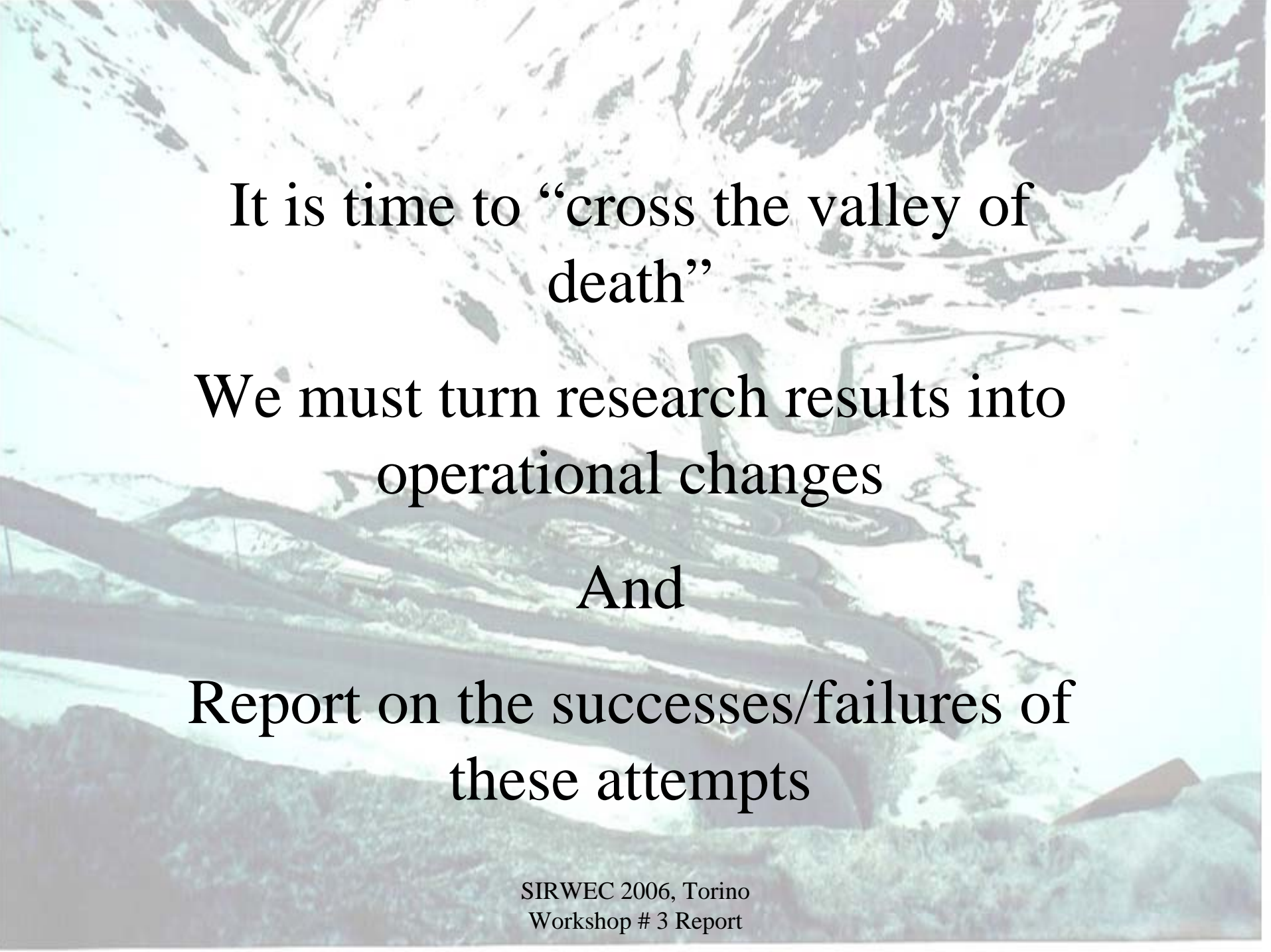
What is the appropriate methodology to
develop an index for this?

An aerial photograph of a mountain range covered in snow. A winding road or path is visible, cutting through the snowy terrain. The sky is a pale, overcast blue.

We must define “User”
requirements

For all levels of users

And specify user-
appropriate information

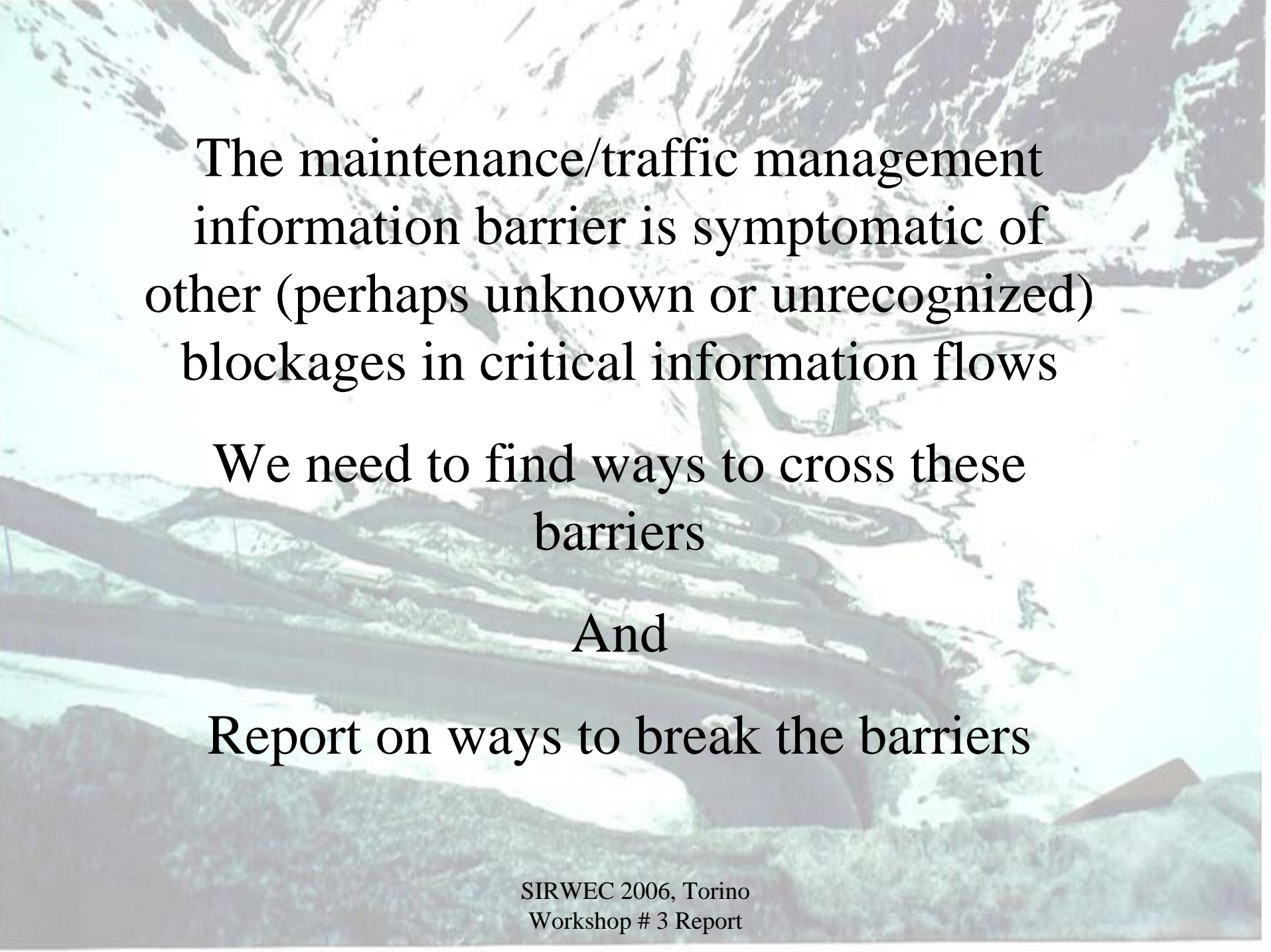
An aerial photograph of a mountain valley covered in snow. A winding road or path is visible, leading towards a small building or structure nestled in the valley. The surrounding terrain is rugged and mountainous.

It is time to “cross the valley of
death”

We must turn research results into
operational changes

And

Report on the successes/failures of
these attempts

An aerial photograph of a winding road through a mountainous, forested landscape. The road is a light-colored ribbon that curves through the dark green and brown terrain. The mountains are rugged and covered in dense vegetation. The sky is a pale, hazy blue.

The maintenance/traffic management information barrier is symptomatic of other (perhaps unknown or unrecognized) blockages in critical information flows

We need to find ways to cross these barriers

And

Report on ways to break the barriers

