
IFRTD Network News

Keeping you up to date with the latest news, opportunities, events, resources and projects from across the IFRTD network

December 2011

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Dear Member

Welcome to IFRTD's latest newsletter. Remember to check the IFRTD website, as we are adding new articles all the time: www.ifrtd.org.

As always, we welcome your additions to our websites and this e-newsletter. Please send your contributions to newsletter@ifrtd.org.

You have been subscribed to this newsletter as a member of the IFRTD network. Please follow the instructions at the bottom of the email if you wish to unsubscribe from future editions.

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NEWS:  
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Latest News from Climate Change in Mountains at UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change)

The United Nations Climate Change Conference in Durban, South Africa, was held from 28 November - 11 December 2011. The conference involved a series of events, including the seventeenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 17) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP 7).

For more information on the climate deal in Durban and what it means please visit:
<http://climatechange.mtnforum.org/en>

Road Safety e-Discussion in IFRTD Asia-Pacific Region

An e-discussion was started in IFRTD Asia-Pacific Region on road safety to identify related issues particularly in the rural context. This is done in line with the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011 – 2020 and a group of IFRTD members and well wishers are involved in the discussion. Many countries have started planning and implementing action plans at national levels coinciding with this declaration. The general tendency in almost all national plans is to focus on how to reduce road traffic accidents that involves motor vehicles and pedestrians. Most of the fatal accidents do take place on all types of roads in the rural areas, where motor vehicles are driven at very high speeds and also the types of unsafe transport alternatives and devices used by rural communities. If you would like to make any comments please write to ranjith.desilva@ifrtd.org

UN report highlights need to make television more accessible to persons with disabilities. Svayam, Indian NGO, reports:

5 December 2011 –

Television should be made more accessible to persons with disabilities, argues a new United Nations report released today, which identifies different accessibility options that would enable users to fully access audiovisual content. According to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies, more than 1.4 billion households worldwide have a TV, representing 98 per cent of homes in developed countries and almost 73 per cent in the developing world. But people with audiovisual impairments are not able to make use of this channel for information, education and entertainment purposes.

Read More: <http://svayam.wordpress.com/2011/12/12/un-report-highlights-need-to-make-television-more-accessible-to-persons-with-disabilities/?mid=54>

Leadership: World Bank Votes \$190m on Rural Transportation (Nigeria)

As part of effort to provide transport system in the rural areas to fast track easy mobility of agricultural produce, the World Bank yesterday disclosed that it would inject \$190 million in its Rural Access and Mobility Project (RAMP) in the country. The second phase of the project would be implemented in Adamawa, Niger, Enugu, Osun, Cross River, and Kaduna States.

The World Bank representative, Engr. Tunji Ahmed, said that the bank was collaborating with Nigeria in order to provide good roads so as to assist farmers to transport their goods.

In his remarks, the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Dr. Akinwumi Adesina, added that the growth of national economy depended to a large extent on stimulation of the rural economy and enhancement of the income and standard of living of the majority of the population.

To read more please click here

http://www.leadership.ng/nga/articles/9291/2011/11/30/world_bank_votes_190m_rural_transportation.html

Sri Lanka Transport Board to import 2,000 single door buses for rural transportation

Dec 05, Colombo: Sri Lanka's state-owned passenger transport service, Sri Lanka Transport Board says that steps are afoot to import 2,000 single door buses next year to be added to the rural transportation network.

Chairman of Sri Lanka Transport Board A.D. Bandusena said the Ministry of Finance has granted approval to the request made by Minister of Transport Kumara Welgama to import the buses. Accordingly steps are to be taken to import a fleet of buses with better fuel efficiency. Estimates are being prepared currently, to import single door buses to be put into service on rural roads.

To read more please see:

http://www.colombopage.com/archive_11B/Dec05_1323096445CH.php

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OPPORTUNITIES:

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British Academy: International Partnership and Mobility Scheme

One-year awards of £10,000 and three-year awards of up to £30,000 are available to support the development of research partnerships between UK scholars and scholars in Africa, East Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East, and South Asia. Awards cover any branch of the humanities and social sciences, and are intended to focus on collaborative research on a specific theme of mutual interest, rather than purely on establishing networks. Partnerships can include a range of related activities, and mobility (in the form of visits in both directions, exchanges, etc.) should form an integral part of proposals.

For further information please visit the Academy's website:

http://www.britac.ac.uk/funding/guide/intl/International_Partnership_and_Mobility.cfm

Call for Abstracts: 2012 Encounter: Moving Territories, Towards Sustainable Development with Social Inclusion, Quito, Ecuador, June 5-7, 2012

The organisers of the 2012 Encounter: Moving Territories, Towards Sustainable Development with Social Inclusion are inviting the presentation of papers that respond to the following questions:

- a) Are there rural territories in Latin America that have economic growth with social inclusion and environmental sustainability?
- b) Which factors determine successful territorial dynamics, that is, those that have had economic growth with social inclusion and environmental sustainability.

c) What can be done from public policy as well as from other spaces of public action to encourage and promote this type of territorial dynamic?

These questions can be answered taking into account the following issues and challenges of Latin American territories:

- employment, growth and competitiveness
- social exclusion, poverty and lagging territories
- citizenship and quality of democracy
- socio environmental conflicts
- food security, new roles of agriculture and territory
- city and territory
- revamp of the State and quality of public management from a territorial perspective

When assessing the abstracts, those that also have added a substantial analysis of gender systems will be considered favourably. That is, the institutions, social issues and other factors associated to gender that influence the access, distribution, control and use of resources and tangible and intangible assets of the territory.

Deadline for submission of abstracts: January 23, 2011

More information at: <http://www.rimisp.org/dtr/encuentro2012/convocatoria>

Contact the organisers: encuentro2012@rimisp.org

Bicycle Program Coordinator - Ghana

Position available with Village Bicycle Project, an NGO providing bicycles to Ghana villages since 2000. Duties: improve quality of our programs by working closely with local organizers, Ghana staff of four, and Board of Directors. Minimum qualifications: one year of development work in Africa, love of bicycles, and some mechanical ability. One-year commitment required.

Salary \$13-15K, housing, travel, five weeks annual leave.

For more info and to Apply: Send a resume and cover letter to: Director David Peckham (info@villagebicycleproject.org) by January 15, 2012.

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EVENTS:

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Professional Certificate in Transport Planning 14th - 18th May 2012, London

The International Centre for Parliamentary Studies announce the Professional Certificate in Transport Planning which is taking place from the 14th - 18th May in London.

The certificate is accredited by the Chartered Management Institute, the leading body that awards internationally recognised management and leadership qualifications.

This course will equip participants with the tools necessary to improve policy making and strategic capacity in the transport sector, enabling more effective management of critical transport planning issues. This week-long course will provide participants with an insight into current issues of local and national strategic transport planning by exploring a variety

of concepts such as technological change, sustainability, viable options and supply chain management.

Participants will also gain experience in drafting successful proposals to obtain funding for transport projects from donors and will examine the social, political and economic factors which will facilitate the delivery of the desired goals of faster, further and friendlier mobility in relation to a variety of transport modes.

For further information, please visit their website: <http://parlicentreteam.com/O8S-MQ19-591MSX-8QATQ-0/c.aspx>

If you wish to attend, please register online in order to secure your delegate place(s).
<http://parlicentreteam.com/O8S-MQ19-591MSX-8QATR-0/c.aspx>

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RESOURCES:

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World Bank Blogs: The problem with rural transport is that it is rural, the solution is in branding, by Peter O'Neil

A major constraint with developing and maintaining rural roads is the fact that they are, unfortunately, rural. The areas where they are needed are often difficult to access, logistics become complicated, local contracting capability is limited, engineers are few and far between, and younger engineers especially, are not keen to leave the urban environment.

To read more see The INDH 2011 (Spanish acronym) will contribute to the international debate on Transforming Rural Reform. Colombia needs to undo the effects of a historic mistake of having believed that the country could modernise without the rural sector, its population and ignoring that the country is more rural than people think. Please visit <http://blogs.worldbank.org/transport/the-problem-with-rural-transport-is-that-it-is-rural-the-solution-is-in-branding>

Colombia Human Development Report 2011 Rural Colombia, Reasons for Hope Rural Women, Agents of Hope

The INDH 2011 (Spanish acronym) will contribute to the international debate on Transforming Rural Reform. Colombia needs to undo the effects of a historic mistake of having believed that the country could modernise without the rural sector, its population and ignoring that the country is more rural than people think.

Please visit http://pnudcolombia.org/indh2011/pdf/mujeres_rurales.pdf and <http://pnudcolombia.org/indh2011/>

Bangladesh - World Bank document on : Women's Economic Empowerment Through Rural Transport and Markets. Nilufar Ahmad, Senior Social Scientist, SDV/SASSD

This report includes challenges to the country, overviews on innovations in the rural transport and market project and institutionalising gender in project implementing agencies.

To see this resource please click here

<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTRANETSOCIALDEVELOPMENT/Resources/244329->

[1164641479884/3197423-1182372041462/5.pdf](https://www.ifrtd.org/1164641479884/3197423-1182372041462/5.pdf)

The IFRTD is a global network of individuals and organisations working together towards improved access, mobility and economic opportunity for poor communities in developing countries.

Email: info@ifrtd.org

Phone: +44 (0) 20 72508323

Websites: www.ifrtd.org / www.mobilityandhealth.org / www.ruralwaterways.org

Company registered in England and Wales.

Company Number: 6835743

Registered Address: IFRTD, CAN Mezzanine, 49-51 East Road, London, N1 6AH, UK
