
IFRTD Network News

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

April 2009

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Dear Member

On behalf of the IFRTD Secretariat, Board and wider network we would like to extend our gratitude and very best wishes to Marinke van Riet who leaves her post as IFRTD Executive Secretary after 4 years with the Forum. Thanks to Marinke's commitment, enthusiasm and hard work IFRTD is in a stronger position than ever, and ready to face the next set of challenges as a newly independent organisation. We look forward to keeping in contact with Marinke in her new role as Country Director for Marie Stopes.

Kate Czuczman, IFRTD Editor and Communications Coordinator, will take over as Interim Executive Secretary whilst the recruitment process is finalised in the coming months. We will of course keep you updated.

Remember to check the website regularly as we are adding new resources and news items all the time. We also 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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500 Bikes for Peace in Northern Uganda

As many people return home from the displacement camps in war affected northern Uganda, UNDP has launched its 'peace bikes' campaign. It aims to support and broaden women's contributions to the peace process and combat sexual and gender-based violence.

More than 700 women, including local councillors and leaders in four districts, have received training in peace building, negotiation and conflict resolution to prevent all forms of violence, particularly that against women and girls. 516 bicycles have been distributed to help women's groups reach the scattered rural population. All the beneficiaries have been trained to repair and maintain the bicycles: skills which will help increase the lifespan of the bicycles while also offering the women a practical means of earning income.

Click on the link below to read the full story:

www.ifrtd.org/new/news/full.php?view=419

IFRTD Latin America Takes Research Results to the Policy-Makers

During 2006-2008 members of IFRTD Latin America researched mobility and access to healthcare issues that are faced by isolated communities in Amazonian Peru. In the last few days ODI (Overseas Development Institute) and CIPPEC (Centro de Implementación de Políticas Públicas para la Equidad y el Crecimiento) have agreed to fund an exciting project that will take these research results directly to the policy-makers using innovative and creative communication tools. As Ana Bravo, IFRTD Regional Coordinator for Latin America, commented: "This project is a great opportunity for the Awajun, one of the communities that were subject of the international networked research programme on Mobility and Health to take their messages to the policy-makers. We are hoping that once the ball starts rolling more researchers and subject communities will be able to take their own results to the policy-makers." For more information please contact Ana Bravo: ana.bravo[at]ifrtd.org

Motorbikes and Midwives: Delivering Better Care for Kenya's Mums

The UK Government's Department for International Development report on their £50 million country-wide programme that is putting in place newly trained community health workers, a civic education programme, a new maternity unit and a new motorbike ambulance service. Sarah Brown, wife of Prime Minister Gordon Brown and Global Patron of the White Ribbon Alliance for Safe Motherhood said of the programme: "This is important not just because no woman should die giving birth but because investing in healthy women and mothers is a virtuous circle. It is they who build healthy families, communities and economies and help us meet all the other development goals the world has set. We cannot afford to forget them."

Click on the link below to read more:

www.ifrtd.org/new/news/full.php?view=421

gTKP Seeking Theme Champion for Governance

The position of Theme Champion for Governance with the global Transport Knowledge Partnership is currently open. If you would like to apply for this position, or find out more about the scope of work involved, please contact the gTKP Project Manager:

Sibylle Rupprecht at srupprecht[at]irfnet.org

Two Online Competitions for Rural Development Innovation!

We wanted to draw your attention to two online competitions that may be of interest to IFRTD members, both focusing on rural development:

"Cultivating Innovation: Solutions for Rural Communities"

Organised by Ashoka's Changemakers in partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation entries must outline innovative strategies, tools and/or opportunities for small farmers to boost their productivity, increase their incomes and build better lives for themselves and their families. With top prizes of \$5,000, the deadline for entries is: 13th May 2009.

<http://www.changemakers.com/en-us/agriculture>

Competition: "Innovative Strategies of the Rural Youth"

The Rural Youth Talents Programme in Latin America, the Caribbean and Africa is an initiative of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) with the objectives of identifying innovative strategies for rural development propelled by rural youth and systematizing and disseminating the most remarkable experiences with the greatest impact. Entries must be made by 30th April 2009.

www.procasur.org/talentosjovenesrurales

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EVENTS:

### **Burkina Faso National Workshop: Transport and Decentralisation**

Organised by the National Forum Group of Burkina Faso in conjunction with PrEst (Programme Pistes Rurales à l'Est), Bureau de la Coopération Suisse (Buco), Skat (Swiss Resource Centre and Consultancies for Development), Programme Sectoriel des Transports (PST 2) and the national office of the World Bank, the workshop will take place 26th-30th April 2009. Entitled: "Mobility and Accessibility in Rural Burkina Faso: Opportunities and Implications for the Regions in the Context of Decentralisation" the main objective is to initiate dialogue between stakeholders for better approaching the challenges relating to mobility and accessibility of people and goods in rural Burkina Faso.

You can find out more (in French) from the IFRTD website:

[www.ifrtd.org/new/news/full.php?view=418](http://www.ifrtd.org/new/news/full.php?view=418)

### **Call for Abstracts: TRANSED 2010**

The 12th International Conference on Mobility and Transport for Elderly and Disabled Persons will take place 2nd-4th June 2010 in Hong Kong. The deadline for receiving abstracts (papers and posters) is 1st June 2009. The main theme is: "Sustainable Transport and Travel for All" and organisers are accepting submissions under the following sub-themes: Affordability and Accessibility; Environmental Concerns and New Technological Development in Accessible Transport; Accessibility Concerns and Solutions for those with Cognitive and Sensory Impairments; and Accessible Tourism.

Held every three years, TRANSED conferences are milestone events in the field of accessible transportation: attracting researchers, policy-makers, transport operators, consumers and other specialists worldwide to share innovations and best practices in order to make transportation and mobility accessible to everyone.

For full details please click on the link below:

[www.transed2010.hk/front/](http://www.transed2010.hk/front/)

### **PIARC International Seminar: Promoting Road Safety for Vulnerable Road Users**

This seminar will take place in Cape Town, South Africa, 25th-27th October 2009. From the organisers: "The type of traffic, the mix of different types of road users and the type of crashes in developing and emerging countries differ significantly from those in more developed countries. Technologies and policies can therefore not be automatically transferred without appropriate adaptation and due consideration for local conditions.

The primary objectives of this international seminar, therefore, entail the following: Identifying and understanding the issues of vulnerable road users in developing and emerging countries; Sharing best local, regional and international practices and/or experiences in successfully combating vulnerable road user deaths and injuries; and Highlighting solutions to reduce the perpetuation of highly vulnerable road user death and injury rates."

To view the full announcement, click on the link below:

[www.piarc.org/library/aipcr/6/2689,PIARC-INTER-SEMI-SA-1ST-ANNOUNCEMEN.pdf](http://www.piarc.org/library/aipcr/6/2689,PIARC-INTER-SEMI-SA-1ST-ANNOUNCEMEN.pdf)

### **PRI World Congress 2009: "Young People and Innovative Road Safety Solutions"**

This congress is due to take place 24th-26th June 2009 in Rotterdam, The Netherlands. It will deal with the most important facts about young people and road safety and look at possible innovative solutions to make traffic safer for them. Important issues to be discussed are communication with and through young people, lifestyle, the peer group approach, gender differences, accompanied driving, political agenda setting and best practices.

PRI, which celebrates its 50th anniversary this year, is a worldwide road safety association with more than 60 members in over 45 countries, most of whom are the leading national traffic safety associations or ministries responsible for road safety.

To find out more, please visit the organiser's website:

[www.priworldcongress2009.eventassist.nl/view.cfm?page\\_id=9551](http://www.priworldcongress2009.eventassist.nl/view.cfm?page_id=9551)

### **India National Workshop: Asset Management in Rural Roads - Issues and Challenges**

Organised by PMGSY (Indian National Rural Roads Programme) the workshop will take place in Hyderabad, India, 28th-29th April 2009. The workshop will bring stakeholders to a common platform to deliberate the issues and challenges associated with asset management in the rural roads sector. The themes of the workshop are: Asset management in Rural Roads - Needs and Present Status; Project Construction and Asset Management Under PMGSY - New Approaches; Framework and Pre-requisites for Sustainable Asset Management in Rural Roads; Asset Practices and Ways Forward in Rural Roads. IFRTD will present on the social and economic aspects of rural transport including gender needs, community participation, access to health and education.

To find out more, click on the link below:

[www.ifrtd.org/new/news/full.php?view=423](http://www.ifrtd.org/new/news/full.php?view=423)

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RESOURCES:
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### **SEACAP Experience in Transport Research in the Greater Mekong Sub-Region: Lessons for New Initiatives on Gender and Transport**

**Authors:** David Salter, et al.

**Presented at:** Regional Research Design Workshop for Gender, Poverty and Mobility Analysis of Road Transportation Development in the Greater Mekong Sub-Region, at the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), 1st-3rd April 2009

The development of better rural access and transport should lead to important benefits shared by rural people. In general terms these benefits are poverty reduction, job creation and access to socio-economic opportunities. However, not all benefits are currently equally realised by women and men. The South East Asia Community Access Programme (SEACAP) has developed a multi-disciplinary knowledge base for good decision-making through projects that turn research into practice. This paper describes the SEACAP approach, project outputs that have a gender dimension and makes recommendations for further research into advancing gender equity in rural access and transport.

To view the paper, please click on the following link:

[www.seacap-info.org/uploads/File/DF%2091%20SEACAP%20Paper%20AIT%20final.pdf](http://www.seacap-info.org/uploads/File/DF%2091%20SEACAP%20Paper%20AIT%20final.pdf)

### **Watch the Brand New Riders for Health YouTube channel: RidersforHealthTV**

Award-winning social enterprise Riders for Health has launched its brand new YouTube channel today. The new channel, called RidersforHealthTV, will give people the chance to watch interviews and stories from all their field programmes in Africa and it is a great opportunity to reach out to new audiences and explain the importance of reliable transport in health service delivery.

To view the channel, click of the following link:

[www.youtube.com/RidersForHealthTV](http://www.youtube.com/RidersForHealthTV)

### **Transaid: Hub and Spoke**

Transaid, who celebrated their 10th Anniversary last year, report on a wide variety of transport related projects in Africa in the latest edition of their Hub & Spoke magazine. Articles include: Zambia - Increasing Access to Healthcare Through Intermediate Modes of Transport; Transport Management Training for Ministry of Health in Northern Nigeria; and Transaid Tackles Road Safety in Uganda.

You can view the newsletter online:

[www.transaid.org/images/resources/HubSpoke\\_Winter\\_2009.pdf](http://www.transaid.org/images/resources/HubSpoke_Winter_2009.pdf)

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NETWORK FOCUS:
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### **South Asia Electronic Forum on Energy (E-net)**

This electronic forum, managed by Practical Action South Asia, provides a space for stakeholders to share their knowledge and experiences of community-based renewable energy options for South Asia. There has been a flurry of recent activity around the topic of energy and transport. Their excellent e-net magazine highlights research and use of technologies such as biofuels, gravity ropeways, solar/hybrid and pedal-powered vehicles. And beyond mobility, recycled waste plastic is explored as a material for use in road construction.

As their editorial explains: "Most discussions on improving rural transportation cover... infrastructure, rural transport strategies, addressing capacity issues, etc. E-net is however different. It focuses on environmentally friendly energy for rural transportation and offers a perspective that is quite different from the conventional."

Visit their web forum to find out more and download the magazine:

[www.sa-energy.net/](http://www.sa-energy.net/)

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**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.**

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