
IFRTD Network News

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

February 2010

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Dear Member

By the time this newsletter reaches you IFRTD's brand new website will be live. It combines the latest social networking tools with rural transport images from around the globe. This allows us to present the wealth of information we have built up over the years in a more user-friendly format. As well as being a hub for thematic issues such as gender and safety, it is also a platform for our regional networks to promote their work. You can already explore the website in English and it will shortly be available in French and Spanish. [Click here](#) to check it out.

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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Request for Advice: Transport for Women in Labour in Afghanistan

Health Prom, an NGO working to improve health and social care for vulnerable women and children in Europe and Central Asia, are seeking your advice for a small partnership project they are supporting in Northern Afghanistan to reduce newborn and maternal mortality. A major obstacle here is the lack of transport from remote villages in the foothills of the Hindu Kush to health centres. Currently the sick or women in labour are transported by donkey or horse using straw bags on either side which they find to be heavy and uncomfortable. In particular Health Prom are seeking tried and tested practical solutions that they may be able to replicate.

For more information, and to contribute, please click on the link below:

www.ifrtd.org/en/full.php?id=496

The Epic Journey from the Peri-Urban Areas of Buenos Aires

Andrea Gutiérrez of the IFRTD Latin America network has for many years studied the mobility constraints faced by those living in the peri-urban areas of Buenos Aires. A new article published in La Nación highlights some of this work and how seemingly simple journeys to work can consume hours on-board some precarious vehicles.

To read the article online (in Spanish) please click on the following link:

www.lanacion.com.ar/nota.asp?nota_id=1223611

TTi Projects Under Way

As we reported back in August 2009 the Transport Training Initiative was established to fulfil one objective: improve human capacities in the transport sector of developing countries. TTi hopes to achieve this through an international network of individuals and institutions. The main focus is to train transport experts in their motherland using national training institutes, teachers and appropriate curricula. TTi has two new calls for participation: Firstly, to establish a consortium to develop relevant courses in developing country universities, and secondly to join a session on 'Training for Sustainable Transport in Developing Countries' that will take place at the 12th World Conference on Transportation Research, 11th - 15th July 2010 in Lisbon, Portugal.

To find out more please click on the link below:

www.ifrtd.org/en/full.php?id=495

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OPPORTUNITIES:  
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For up-to-date information you can also visit our new 'Opportunities' section on the IFRTD website:

www.ifrtd.org/en/membership/opportunities.php

Danida Job Vacancy 1: Senior Advisor, Rural Roads and Infrastructure

Danida (The Danish International Development Agency) seeks a senior advisor to support the Ugandan Ministry of Works and Transport in the transformation process from being an implementing authority to securing more focus on policy formulation, planning and strategies in relation to the rehabilitation and extension of the rural roads. In addition, your responsibilities will include preparation of reforms, indicators and monitoring as well as capacity building within the Ministry and advising on allocation of funds. You must have a relevant university degree within civil engineering, transport economics or similar and extensive knowledge of the road sector and infrastructure development. You must also be fluent in English.

You can find out more from the link below:

www.ifrtd.org/en/full.php?id=493

Danida Job Vacancy 2: Senior Advisor, Training, Rural Roads and Infrastructure

As senior advisor you will work closely with the Principal of the Mount Elgon Labour-based Training Centre. You will assist the Centre with curriculum development, implementation of training activities as well as initiate the use of new innovative technologies in training, including labour-based methods. In addition, you will assist with capacity building initiatives and strategy development and liaise with the Ministry of Works and Transport and local government. You will have a relevant university degree within civil engineering or similar and extensive experience with training, curriculum development, rural roads, institutional development and capacity building. You must also be fluent in English.

For more information please click on the following link:

www.ifrtd.org/en/full.php?id=494

DFIDs Development Innovation Fund: An Opportunity for Small NGOs

The UKs Department for International Development (DFID) has recently launched the Development Innovation Fund (DIF) aimed specifically at small NGOs who often find it hard to access funding from international bilateral agencies. It is open to community-based organisations involved in providing specific small scale, one-off support that directly targets poverty in the developing world and includes a significant development awareness component in the UK. Small-scale project proposals will have an initial ceiling of £60,000.

For more information, please visit the DFID website:

www.dfid.gov.uk/dif

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EVENTS:

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Call for Papers: Gender, Economic Integration and Cross Border Road Infrastructure Development

Organised by the Asian Institute of Technology and the Asia Pacific Regional Secretariat of IFRTD this workshop will take place 6th-7th May 2010, in the AIT Conference Centre, Thailand. Asia has historically experienced high intra-mobility of goods and people, but in recent years such mobility has increased dramatically. One of the largest factors contributing to this trend is the heavy investment in the construction and renovation of road networks. Although there have been studies on regional economic integration with the improved mobility of goods and capital, how this has impacted on the socio-economic conditions and cultural practices among the local people along the road, as well as at the border regions, are still under-researched. This is particularly true from the perspective of gender and ethnicity.

The workshop explores how mobility of goods and people are changing as a result of road infrastructure development and economic integration policies, how such changes affect the livelihoods of the people along the road and how such changes further affect the way of life and practices of local women and men, especially in terms of gender-based power relations. Deadline for abstract submissions: 20th March 2010.

For more information please visit:

www.ifrtd.org/en/full.php?id=492

Non-Paved Municipal Roads Course, Pelotas, Brazil

Organised by the Federal University of Pelotas and IFRTD Latin America, this course will take place 2nd - 3rd March 2009 and will focus on non-paved roads. Topic covered: materials, draining properties, environmental quality, laboratory testing of non-paved roads and the course will also include a field visit.

For more information please email Alfredo Luís Mendes d'Ávila: [alfredosolos\[at\]yahoo.com.br](mailto:alfredosolos@yahoo.com.br)

PIARC Seminar on Sustainable Maintenance of Rural Roads

More than 500 Indian participants were joined by colleagues from around the world for this PIARC seminar, which took place in Hyderabad, India between the 21st - 23rd January 2010. The main objective of the seminar was to provide a common platform for practitioners to share experiences and deliberate the issues and challenges associated with the planning, provision and maintenance of rural roads in a sustainable way. Innovations with respect to involving local communities throughout the process also formed part of the overall objective of the seminar. The outcomes of the panel discussions on 'ways forward' will be made available soon on the PIARC and Indian National Rural Roads Development Agency websites.

Please contact the NRRDA for more information:

www.pmgysy.nic.in/nrrda.asp

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RESOURCES:  
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New Book: Children, Transport and Mobility - Sharing Experiences of Young Researchers in Ghana, Malawi and South Africa

Common challenges faced by children walking to school in Ghana, Malawi and South Africa are the long distances travelled and the domestic chores that must be completed before setting out. But what do the children themselves think about this? Rather than an external researcher finding the answers this participatory research project led by the University of Durham asked children themselves to collate and compile the research.

The principal aim was to generate knowledge that can serve as evidence to help change transport policies and practices, especially where these impact on the educational and health opportunities of children and young people. The idea for the book came from the young researchers themselves. They wanted a vehicle for sharing their experiences and research findings with a wider audience. The result is very much their own work, indeed most of the book was written by the young researchers in their own words.

You can download the book for free (pdf, 2.2mb):

www.ifrtd.org/new/res/children_mobility_book_webversion.pdf

Fascículo 5 - Circulación

Publication: Seguridad Vial: Bases Para el Entendimiento de la Problemática del Tránsito y la Seguridad Vial

Publisher: Instituto de Seguridad y Educación Vial

As we have reported before in this newsletter this book is being published for free by the Instituto de Seguridad y Educación Vial (The Institute of Road Safety and Education). It comes in nine free and downloadable chapters, the fifth of which is now also available online (in Spanish). It is entitled 'Circulación', which in this sense means the movement of people, animals and vehicles along public routes. The aim of the series is to chart the history and various aspects of road safety in an open and accessible manner. Other chapter titles include: The Environmental Factor, Policies and Strategies of Road Safety and Human Mobility.

If you want to find out more, please visit the ISEV website:

www.isev.com.ar

Or read the chapter in an online book format here:

<http://en.calameo.com/read/00000480990147f014ebf>

Next Steps After Copenhagen: Opportunities and Challenges in the Transport Sector

On Friday 15th January 2010, 180 transport and climate change experts from local and national governments, multi-lateral development agencies, academic institutions, non-profits and private companies gathered in Washington D.C. to discuss Next Steps After Copenhagen: Opportunities and Challenges in the Transport Sector as part of the annual Transforming Transportation conference. Participants set out to answer the following questions: How can the transport community best engage in solving the challenges caused by climate change?; What are the connections between climate

change and other drivers of transport interventions in developing countries?; What significance do the outcomes of the Climate Conference in Copenhagen have for national and local policy making in the transport sector? A 'key messages' document from the SloCaT (Sustainable Low Carbon Transport) Partnership gives a concise round-up of the results.

Please visit the SLoCaT Partnership website for more information:

www.sutp.org/slocat/key-messages-of-the-annual-transforming-transportation-conference/

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NETWORK FOCUS:  
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YOURS: Youth for Road Safety

Road crashes are the leading killer of young people. More than 1000 young people die every day, thousands more are injured. YOURS is a youth-led organisation that acts to keep young people safe on the world's roads. The group was established following the first ever World Youth Assembly for Road Safety meeting at the United Nations in Geneva in 2007 attended by 400 young road safety advocates from around the world.

With values that reflect the way IFRTD works, YOURS has three areas of activity:

- * Advocacy - to provide a voice for youth on road safety issues at a global level in order to increase awareness of youth road safety
- * Networking - to connect young people and youth-led NGO's active in the road safety field around the world
- * Capacity Development - not just to turn young people into road safety advocates, but also equip them with project management, communication and advocacy skills, in order to organise effective road safety campaigns in their countries and raise awareness for the vulnerable position of young people in traffic.

For more information please visit their website:

www.youthforroadsafety.org/

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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