
IFRTD Network News

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

May 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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Launch of the UN "Decade of Action for Road Safety"

The UN Global Road Safety Decade for Action launched on 11th May 2011: The Road Safety Fund has been created as new global road safety fund to support the implementation of the United Nations' Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020. The Fund directs resources from a range of donors – companies, governments, philanthropies and the public – to support road injury prevention programmes in countries and communities working to defeat this growing epidemic of road death and injury. The Road Safety Fund the following mission: To invest in the preventative measures that are proven to reduce the risk or severity of road injury. Invest in the people and the skills that can provide sustainable paths to safety.

Read more at: www.decadeofaction.org/index.html, <http://www.who.int/en/> and http://www.who.int/roadsafety/decade_of_action/en/index.html

Total and the World Bank Global Road Safety Facility have launched the “African Road Safety Corridor Initiative”:

The African Road Safety Corridor Initiative is supported by Total and the Global Road Safety Facility of the World Bank. It covers the transit corridor of Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi. The initiative follows the 2007 Accra Declaration by African ministers of transport who resolved to reduce the number of road fatalities by 50 per cent by 2015.

The initiative will initially focus on the Mombasa-Kampala northern corridor which records the highest number of road accident fatalities in the East Africa region. It is estimated that the East Africa region loses up to five per cent of its GDP to road crashes which is more than the infrastructure aid received.

To read more please go to: <http://allafrica.com/stories/201104210049.html>

Road safety becomes a priority for Sri Lanka:

In conjunction with the UN declaration of 2011 – 2020, as a decade of Action for Road Safety, considering the facts of adverse health, socio-economic impact of the road accidents all over the world, the Government of Sri Lanka launched a programme on the 11th of May, by H.E. the President of Sri Lanka, in Colombo. IFRTD Asia-Pacific Regional Coordinator was invited to this all important national event by the Ministry of Transport of Sri Lanka. It was reported that around 150 serious road accidents are reported in Sri Lanka, which account for 5-6 human lives on a daily basis. In the past ten years (2000 to 2009) 59 persons died and 179,894 injured of which 45,922 seriously. The Government of Sri Lanka has spent nearly USD 1 million for the treatment of the injured.

The objectives of the conference held on the 11th May, 2011 were to create awareness among policy makers, stakeholders and general public on the magnitude of the epidemic of road accidents and to officially launch the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety. A Parliamentary select committee appointed for the subject in 2007 has produced a report on the subject and as a result, the National Road Safety Council has been established by the Government of Sri Lanka. A comprehensive programme to reduce the road accidents will be implemented in Sri Lanka led by the Ministries of Transport and Health and the Department of Police with the participation of the general public civil society groups and the private sector.

Discussion on Linking Gender, Poverty, and Environment to Promote Sustainable Development

The linkages between gender, poverty, and environment are often noted but the dynamics are not well documented. This discussion provides a unique opportunity to review and

discuss the broader implications of findings from case studies conducted in Ghana and Ethiopia led by the Social Development Department, World Bank and funded by the Bank-Netherlands Partnership Program (BNPP).

Why Participate? In our online discussions, you are invited to share your thoughts on the analytical framework, the broader applications of the study findings, your own experience, and data regarding these links. Participation in this discussion will be acknowledged in the final report *Linking Gender, Poverty, and Environment to Promote Sustainable Development*.

How to Participate in the Online Discussions: to participate and receive periodic updates, please visit the Gender in Evaluation web site and register at <http://genderinevaluation.ning.com>. We look forward to useful exchange of experience and perspectives on these links, and to help ensure that positive gender-poverty-environment links are fostered in World Bank policies, operations, and analytical work.

Discussion Topics will include:

I. **Understanding the Dynamics of the Gender-Poverty-Environment Links:** will establish a common frame of reference for discussing gender-poverty –environment links by examining a draft analytical framework as it applies to a good practice project case studies. May 2 - 11

II. **Promoting a Positive Spiral:** will examine potential applications of the study findings and online discussion insights for two key issues emerging from consultations on the forthcoming World Bank Environment Strategy:

- 1) Strengthening Environmental Governance. May 12-May 20
- 2) Managing Multiple Environmental Risks. May 25-June 3

III. **Developing Tools for Positive Gender Equality-Poverty Reduction-Environment Sustainability Links:** will critique and enhance draft tools to guide decision-makers in sustainable development sectors. June 6-June 15

Asian Development Bank (ADB) news:

Infrastructure in Asia and the Pacific must not only be strengthened and expanded but also enable the cost-effective movement of goods, services, and people across boundaries if the region is to sustain robust economic growth in the decades to come. Read more: www.adb.org/Media/Articles/2011/13558-improved-connectivity-infrastructure/

Ethiopia Transport Forum rebranded:

The Ethiopian National Forum for Rural Transport and Development (ENFRTD) has renamed the Forum as Transport and Development Forum (TDF). This change reflects the fact that the Forum is engaged transport and development issues, straddling both rural and urban settings. Since its change of name, it has undertaken a project on the prevention of STDs and HIV/AIDS along Gobgob - Gashena Road Upgrading Project of 81 km in the northern part of Ethiopia, Amhara region. The project addresses the rural and urban communities.

New York Mayor Bloomberg talks at the Road Safety Meeting:

Mayor Bloomberg Discusses The Challenges And Importance Of Reducing Traffic Fatalities At The Road Safety Meeting Hosted By World Bank & Inter-American Development Bank.

“And at the same time, 74 million new cars are hitting the world’s roads each year – roughly half of those in low- and middle-income nations.”

“Our record of improving safety in New York encouraged me to try to replicate this same

success around the world, and it also inspired us to act at the fact that road safety has not typically been a top priority – yet the number of lives that could potentially be saved is incredible.”

“Now, drawing on these lessons, our foundation has launched a five-year, \$125 million program to improve road safety around the world. Our campaign is targeting the 10 low- and middle-income countries that make up almost half of all road traffic fatalities worldwide. And as with all of our foundation’s efforts, collaboration is key. By focusing our resources on organizations that are closest to the ground, we strive to make the biggest impact.”

To read more please go to:

<http://vision6.com.au.ch/21922/2bf3r3v/1425890/611e9ybqz.html>

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OPPORTUNITIES:

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Road Safety in Asian and Latin American countries: Principles and Approaches - 09 - 21 October 2011 - Transportation Research Institute, Hasselt University, Belgium

For the last 3 years, Hasselt University Belgium organized a 2-week training programme “Road Safety in Asian and Latin American countries: Principles and Approaches” aimed at professionals who prepare, carry out and follow up road safety initiatives in Asia & Latin America. We are happy to inform you that in 2011, Hasselt University will most likely organise a fourth edition of this road safety programme.

Note that the organizers are still awaiting final confirmation by the Belgian government whether or not this edition can be held in 2011 (decision expected in the course of next week), but have received news that the decision will most likely be positive.

If they get confirmation by the Belgian government next week, the new programme will be organized from 9th – 21st October 2011 at Hasselt University, Belgium.

The tuition fee for taking part in this programme is 1,250 EUR (for people from developing countries) or 2,500 (for people from developed countries).

However, VLIR-UOS (Flemish Inter University Board – University Development Cooperation) will fund 15 scholarships. Applicants who are accepted for a scholarship can take part in this programme for free.

Please note that only people from countries, listed on the VLIR-UOS country list are eligible for a scholarship. This list can be found on Hasselt University, Belgium website:

www.imob.uhasselt.be

Due to the delay in the programme announcement, we have postponed the application deadline to 1st July 2011! This means that you need to ensure you apply in time, otherwise it will be too late for visa application.

For non-scholarship application, the application deadline is 15th September 2011 (but this is only possible if no visa for Belgium is required).

Link to website for more details and download of application form:

[www.uhasselt.be/UH/IMOB-EN/IMOB_EN-Education/\(5431\)-Training-Road-Safety.html](http://www.uhasselt.be/UH/IMOB-EN/IMOB_EN-Education/(5431)-Training-Road-Safety.html)

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EVENTS:

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World Road Association (PIARC) Mexico 2011- Roads for a better life:

World Road Association, Mexico, September 26-30.

The program of the Congress will offer a variety of opportunities for enriching knowledge and experiences related to roads and transport by roads. It will also foster networking among specialists and policy-makers from all over the world through the technical sessions, the expo and the technical visits offered during the event.

Official languages of the Congress are English, Spanish and French. Simultaneous translation on all three languages will be offered during the ceremonies, technical sessions, visits and social events.

Registration for the congress is still open.

You can find out more at: www.aipcrmexico2011.org/index.php/es/home

IRF Symposium

'Providing Infrastructure that improves Road Safety' 10-11 May 2011 Novotel, Bucharest, Romania. For links to the Final programme and registration please visit:

www.irfnet.ch/events/bucharest2011?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Romania%2B2011&utm_campaign=2011-05-05

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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