

IFRTD Network News

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

July 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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IFRTD Forum News: Transport in the Mountains

Our most recent edition (Volume 15 Issue 4 July 2011) of IFRTD Forum News is now available to view online.

In this issue:

- Transport in the Mountains: Keeping the Discussion Alive
- Godavari Statement of Intent
- Community groups take to the roads
- An intermediate mode of transport making peace with the mountains and working for the poor
- The Himalayas and the Andes: Sharing more than mountains

To view online please click here:

<http://www.ifrtd.org/files/uploads/Forum%20news%20July%202011.pdf>

Swiss Development Cooperation - Road construction in Nepal: a way out of poverty

With a second place in the "Innovation Award for Road Transport in Developing Countries", the International Roads Federation recognises the District Roads Support Project for its contribution to the transport sector and improving accessibility to villages in rural Nepal. By constructing, rehabilitating and maintaining rural roads in a labour-based, environmentally friendly and participatory manner, the project improves the living conditions of local people by facilitating access to schools, health care and economic opportunities and improving mobility.

To read more click here:

http://www.deza.admin.ch/en/Home/Projects/Road_construction_in_Nepal_a_way_out_of_poverty

2011 – 2012: IRF announces Road Safety as its first Biennial Focus Theme

The International Road Federation, Geneva, Switzerland, has launched a new series of biennial themes by declaring Road Safety as its key focus for the years 2011 – 2012. It will mark this period with a concerted drive to make a decisive contribution to the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety. The emphasis will be on promoting safety as a vital and integral component of overall sustainability, impacting on all aspects of road infrastructure and transport planning.

Every year, nearly 1.3 million people die as a result of road traffic accidents throughout the world. Ninety percent of road traffic fatalities occur in low and middle-income countries, which together account for less than half of the world's registered vehicle fleet.

Kiran K. Kapila, chairman of IRF Geneva states "Concerted strategies aimed at reducing road casualties and fatalities could, have a major impact on wider global development efforts- notably in the context of the UK Millennium Development Goals – to reduce suffering, unlock growth and free vital resources for more productive use. IRF has for many years been deeply committed to addressing the concerns of road safety on a worldwide scale, and has been particularly active in efforts to promote the construction and effective maintenance of "forgiving roads."

To read more please click here: http://sarf.org.za/press_release.php

Swiss support to Sector Wide Approach for Trail Bridges in Nepal

A Joint Financial Arrangements to fund the Trail Bridge Sector Wide Approach (TB - SWAp) was signed between the Government of Nepal represented by the Ministry of Local Development and Swiss government represented by Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation Nepal along with other donors – Asian Development Bank, The World Bank, and Department for International Development - UK, in June 2011. This arrangement has a target of constructing 2200 trail bridge within a period of 5 years (July 2009 – June 2014) to enhance accessibility in remote rural villages.

In 2007, the Ministry in consultation with donors active in supporting the rural infrastructure sector, expressed their desire to improve donor coordination and harmonization in the rural transport infrastructure (RTI). In the spirit of Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, with intent of having improved coordination, reduced duplication and effective utilization of resources, the Ministry and seven donors (WB, ADB, DFID, SDC, GTZ, JICA and WFP) signed a Statement of Intent (SOI) in 2008, committing themselves to the intent of SWAp (Sector Wide Approach) for RTI. As the trail bridge sub-sector is the most advanced sub-sector within RTI, it was decided that programme on trail bridges should lead SWAp for RTI effective from July 2009, with the expectations that it will pave ways to synchronize other sub-sectors into RTI SWAp from early 2011.

In this joint funding arrangements, SDC's will mainly provide technical assistance to carry out TB - SWAp July 2014, while the government of Nepal, DFID, WB and ADB's supports will mainly be used for the construction and maintenance of the trail bridges. DFID's contribution amounts to £2 million is for the period of 2009-2011, while the WB's contribution amounts to US\$ 6 million is for the period of 2009-2013, through WB's on-going Rural Access Improvement and Decentralization Project (RAIDP). So far, the number of trail bridges constructed in the country is over 4600. By end of TB SWAp - July 2014, there will be over 6000.

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OPPORTUNITIES:

### **API Fellowships grant opportunity for candidates from Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Thailand**

Asian Public Intellectuals (API) Fellowships Program provides grant to successful applicants to carry out a project during the fellowship period of one month to one year in a country or countries participating in the API Fellowships Program (currently confined to Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Thailand).

Themes include:

- Changing Identities and Their Social, Historical, and Cultural Contexts
- Reflections on the Human Condition and the Search for Social Justice
- Globalization: Structures, Processes, and Alternatives

For more information see: <http://www.fundsforngos.org/fellowships-2/api-fellowships-grant-opportunity-candidates-indonesia-japan-malaysia-philippines-thailand/>

**Applications sought for Next Gen Fellowships in Peace, Security & Development from early- career scholars from Ghana, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, and**

## **Uganda**

The Next Generation Social Sciences in Africa program was launched in June this year in response to a shortage of well-trained faculty now reaching crisis proportions in African higher education. The program is now seeking applications for Fellowships in peace, Security & Development aimed at nurturing the intellectual development and increasing the retention of early-career faculty in Ghana, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, and Uganda. Approximately 45 awards are offered in a given year across all three fellowship opportunities and all five eligible countries.

For more information: <http://www.ssrc.org/programs/nextgenafrika/>

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EVENTS:
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## **13th Brazilian Congress on Geology of Engineering and the Environment**

The Brazilian Association of Engineering and Environmental Geology – ABGE is pleased to invite to the 13th Brazilian Congress on Engineering and Environmental Geology, which will take place from 2nd to 6th of November in Sao Paulo. The theme of the 13th Brazilian Congress on Engineering and Environmental Geology is “The sustainable growth and the Engineering and Environmental Geology”. It has as objective to promote a broad and critique debate on the role and the requirements for the professionals from Engineering Geology, Geotechnics and Environmental Geology, in the face of the challenges for the sustainable growth of the country, at a more accelerated rhythm during recent years. Among others, issues related to infrastructure (roads, railways, transmission lines, port structures, etc.), mining, planning and land management and their environmental impact as well as environmental management, associated to human activities are broached.br> More information at: <http://www.acquacon.com.br/13cbge/>

## **2nd IRF Executive Workshop on Performance-Based Contracts & Evaluating Asset Condition**

International Road Federation (IRF) cordially invites participants to attend the 2nd Annual IRF Executive Workshop on Performance Based Contracts and Evaluating Asset Condition in Toronto, Canada August 16-18, 2011. This workshop is designed to help road operators and agencies around the world understand and learn to apply performance-based maintenance contracts to lower operating costs at a time of constrained budgets. The development and usefulness of performance-based maintenance contracts have rapidly increased as more and more transportation agencies embrace this approach and recognize it as an effective strategy to perform highway maintenance on existing and newly constructed infrastructure that may be part of a design-build-operate-maintain contract.

The second edition of this workshop will bring together top industry experts from North America and Europe to examine how performance-based contracting can be an effective strategy to perform highway maintenance on existing infrastructure and newly constructed facilities that may be part of a design-build-maintain contract.

Please follow the web link for details and registration: <http://www.irfnews.org/news-events/event-detail/irf-executive-workshop-on-performance-based-contracts-evaluating-asset-cond/>

## **5th Africa T2 Conference**

The 5th Africa Transportation Technology Transfer (T2) Conference" will be held at Naura Springs Hotel in Arusha, Tanzania, from 21st to 25th November 2011. T2 Conference is a forum intended to share, exchange and debate experiences, best practices, and new technologies in the provision, maintenance and management of all modes of transport. The information about the 5th Africa T2 Conference is also available at the conference website <http://www.africat2conference.tant2centre.or.tz/>

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RESOURCES:

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## **Video by Andrea Gutiérrez: Messages from the Edge, between the Urban and Rural**

New videos on IFRTD websites: From the Mobility and Health Networked Research Programme, the researcher Andrea Gutiérrez, produced the videos: Messages from the Edge, between the Urban and Rural, based on the findings of her research. As Andrea put it in her article, "We think audiovisual material help community up to visualize by their own eyes the access problems to maternal and child health care and to know how mobility affects them. They have testimony like this mother from the neighborhood called Zelaya: 'to go there, I just walked up, because the bus only goes every one hour'. Another one told us: 'until the people's lining up wasn't finished, you couldn't realize that wasn't any appointment else (to see the physician) then, you have to come back another day'"

You can watch the videos at:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q\\_LAKdNYZcY&feature=youtu.be](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q_LAKdNYZcY&feature=youtu.be) and read the supporting article at

[http://www.ifrtd.org/files/uploads/MyS2%20to%20Web%20\(English%20Version\)ANDREA\[1\].pdf](http://www.ifrtd.org/files/uploads/MyS2%20to%20Web%20(English%20Version)ANDREA[1].pdf)

## **Virtual network on transport and agricultural development**

IFRTD and a number of its partners have launched an virtual network for people interested in issues at the nexus of transport investments and agricultural development. This list is initially made up of a multi-disciplinary group of 24 people who have been involved in a series of workshops on this subject, led by Africa College at Leeds University (Leeds, March 2010; Ibadan, October 2010 and Leeds, June 2011). The list will provide a platform to share ideas, news, events and publications relevant to the subject. You can subscribe by going to the homepage: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/transport4agriculturaldevelopments>

## **The Guide of Reference of Transport in Africa - 2011 now published and Available**

Dear Stakeholder of the Transport sector,

Africa is moving and within this dynamic, we are very proud to disclose this unique resource, the Guide of Reference of Transport in Africa 2011.

The guide is:

- 100 pages of full description of activities in the transport sector in Africa
- 1000 prominent African companies referenced in each country across Africa and active in public transport, freight transport and logistics, manufacturing and spare parts supplying, academics, etc
- 48 African countries covered (from North to South and West to East of Africa)
- Contact details of CEOs, Managing Directors, and other Managers of the transport activity

in Africa

Please go to: [http://issuu.com/seem-consult/docs/extract\\_guide\\_transport\\_2011](http://issuu.com/seem-consult/docs/extract_guide_transport_2011)

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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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Company registered in England and Wales.

Company Number: 6835743

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