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## IFRTD Network News

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

September 2010

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Dear Member

Hello and welcome to the September edition of the IFRTD newsletter. Before reading on for the latest developments from the rural transport sector, including two exciting new awards, please note that the **IFRTD London Secretariat has moved offices**. you can now find us at:

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49-51 East Road,  
N1 6AH,  
London,  
UK

Our new telephone number is:  
+44 (0)20 72508323

And our new fax number is:  
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As always, we welcome your additions to our websites and this e-newsletter. Please send your contributions to [newsletter@ifrtd.org](mailto: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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### **Colin Relf Young Voices Award 2010**

IFRTD is pleased to announce that its young people's writing award, the Colin Relf Young Voices Award 2010, is open for submissions. The award is an exciting opportunity for young people from developing countries to share their innovative ideas, opinions and perspectives on rural transport and development. This year the questions will focus on two issues vital to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals: the role of rural transport in health provision for the rural poor; and rural transport and climate change. Winners will be awarded prizes and the opportunity to have their work disseminated and published by IFRTD. This year the Colin Relf Young Voices Award has kindly been sponsored by ITTransport.

For full details please visit the IFRTD website:  
[www.ifrtd.org/en/membership/Colin\\_Relf\\_award.php](http://www.ifrtd.org/en/membership/Colin_Relf_award.php)

### **Call for Submissions: Innovation Award for Road Transport in Developing Countries**

The International Road Federation (IRF) has opened calls for this brand new Innovation Award for Road Transport in Developing Countries (inaroad award), which aims to recognise the best efforts on the ground and in promoting the application of innovative, sustainable and good practices in the field of transport in the developing world. By honouring excellence and innovation in transport the award seeks to showcase the positive impacts of improved road infrastructure and transport conditions on the quality of life of communities and its vital contribution to poverty reduction, thus encouraging decision-makers and practitioners worldwide to implement such solutions. Applications should be submitted to the IRF Geneva Secretariat by 30th October 2010. The three best projects will receive a prize to be discerned at a major event in 2011 (with travel and/or accommodation and registration for the awards ceremony), they will also be integrated into the gTKP knowledge library as examples of good practice to encourage South-South exchange.

Please click on the link below for more information:  
[www.gtkp.com/activity.php?actid=21&parentactid=21](http://www.gtkp.com/activity.php?actid=21&parentactid=21)

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OPPORTUNITIES:  
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### **ESRC-DFID Joint Scheme for Research on Poverty Alleviation**

The UK Department for International Development (DFID) and Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) are pleased to announce a second call for applications under Phase 2 of their strategic partnership to provide a joint funding scheme for development research. The purpose of the scheme is to provide a more robust conceptual and empirical basis for development, and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. This second phase of the joint scheme has a total budget of £23 million and consists of three annual calls for proposals.

The current second phase of funding retains the overall 'poverty alleviation' theme and applications under this broad heading will still be eligible. However, ESRC and DFID have identified three thematic areas for this call where work will be of particular interest. These areas are: Population and Development; Development in a Changing World: the Challenge for Theory, Policy and Action; Inequality and Development. Application deadline: 30th September 2010.

Click on the link below for full details:

[www.esrcsocietytoday.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/opportunities/current\\_funding\\_opportunities/ESRC-DFID.aspx](http://www.esrcsocietytoday.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/opportunities/current_funding_opportunities/ESRC-DFID.aspx)

### **Free Webinars: Designing for Pedestrian Safety**

The Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Centre (PBIC) and the US Federal Highway Administration are offering an 8-part webinar series intended to help communities address pedestrian safety issues through design and engineering solutions. They are being offered for free and you can access the first 3 archives and register for the remaining 5 sessions by visiting their website. Topics covered range from sidewalk design to road diets.

Click on the link below to find out more:

[www.walkinginfo.org/training/pbic/dps\\_webinars.cfm](http://www.walkinginfo.org/training/pbic/dps_webinars.cfm)

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EVENTS:  
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### **Sustainability of Rural Road Networks**

This international seminar, organised by the World Road Association (PIARC) and the Government of Bolivia, will take place in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, between 9th-11th March 2011. The primary objective of the seminar is to raise awareness of the importance of the provision and maintenance of sustainable rural road networks for the benefit of communities. It will provide a platform for experts to share experiences and discuss issues and challenges related to planning, provision and maintenance of rural roads in a sustainable manner. Innovations regarding the participation of local communities in the whole process are also part of the overall programme of the seminar. It is open to members of the international road community who are interested in gaining and sharing knowledge on best practice maintenance of rural and low-volume roads.

To find out more about this event please click on the link below:

[www.piarc.org/en/congresses-seminars/3083.htm](http://www.piarc.org/en/congresses-seminars/3083.htm)

### **International Conference on Developments in Road Transportation**

This event is being organised by the National Institute of Technology, Rourkela, India, as part of their 50th anniversary celebrations between 8th-10th October 2010. From event

organisers: 'In recent years, developments in road infrastructures are growing faster, particularly in developing countries like India... There have been technological advancements in many aspects of road transportation, particularly in the areas of planning, geometric design, traffic engineering, transport economics, pavement design, maintenance methodologies and appropriate and low cost material technology.' Amongst other issues the agenda includes: road maintenance and management; low volume roads; low cost road construction and waste utilisation. IFRTD members from Sri Lanka and Bangladesh will be representing IFRTD at the event.

If you are interested in attending please visit the organisers' website:  
[www.nitrkl.ac.in/conference/conference\\_welcome.asp?cid=24](http://www.nitrkl.ac.in/conference/conference_welcome.asp?cid=24)

### **5th Regional Conference on Road Safety**

This IRF event will take place in New Delhi, India, 25th-26th November 2010. From event organisers: "One of the key areas which would go a long way in mitigating the ill effects of road accidents and improving road safety, is having an appropriate institutional arrangement for the reduction of road fatalities. Accordingly, IRF India is holding this important regional conference, the fifth in a highly successful series of road safety conferences since 2006. The two day conference will be addressed by eminent international experts in the field of road safety, especially in the area of institutional development in relation to road safety."

For more information, please visit the IRF website:

<http://www.irfnet.org/eventdetail.php?catid=1&id=232&title=5th%20Regional%20Conference%20on%20Road%20Safety>

### **Non-Paved Municipal Roads Course – Pelotas Brazil**

Organised by the Federal University of Pelotas and IFRTD Latin America, this course will take place (in Portuguese) between 21st-22nd September 2010, and will focus on non-paved roads. In particular course participants will discuss aspects such as materials, draining properties, environmental quality and laboratory testing.

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

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RESOURCES:  
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### **Maximising the Social Development Outcomes of Roads and Transport Projects**

This guidance note, produced by NGO Engineers Against Poverty, seeks to provide an overview of the social issues of road and transport projects and to make recommendations on how best to address them: "Transportation plays a critical role in development. Effective transport systems enable people to access vital services, such as healthcare and education, to travel for employment, to transport and sell goods, to access social networks and to make their voices heard in the political arena. Many of the 'technical' decisions made in the design and implementation of transportation projects have social impacts – both positive and negative – which have an important bearing on the success of the project."

Click on the link below if you want to find out more:

[www.engineersagainstopoverty.org/viewitem.cfm?cit\\_id=382702](http://www.engineersagainstopoverty.org/viewitem.cfm?cit_id=382702)

### **Community Based Road Safety**

This useful knowledge resource from gTKP outlines how community based safety programmes are a practical and successful way of promoting road safety. Community programmes are particularly fruitful in rural and suburban areas where the communities may be stronger, and regular enforcement is harder due to limited police resources. In Bangladesh for example, the Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC) promoted road safety through community education programmes, involving people in the identification, prioritisation, planning, design and implementation of road safety measures. The percentage of pedestrians in one location walking on the correct side of the road, facing traffic, increased from 5% to 66% after the intervention.

Click on the link below to read more:

[www.gtkp.com/theme.php?themepgid=93](http://www.gtkp.com/theme.php?themepgid=93)

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NETWORK FOCUS:  
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### **IFRTD Regional Coordinator Peter Njenga on the Significance of the New Makete Website**

Last month we reported on the new [www.maketetree.org](http://www.maketetree.org). It charts the history of a small pilot programme in the Makete District, Tanzania, that changed the rural transport sector forever. It pioneered a new approach to rural transport that for the first time put people at the heart of transport planning. Today, the 'Makete Approach' is recognised in having a formative influence on transport sector policies and institutions in many countries across Sub-Saharan Africa and similar approaches have been widely replicated in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Peter Njenga, IFRTD Regional Coordinator for East and Southern Africa, reflects on this remarkable project and how many of the lessons learnt hold true for the rural transport sector today.

To read Peter's article, please click on the link below:

[www.ifrtd.org/en/full.php?id=540](http://www.ifrtd.org/en/full.php?id=540)

You can also visit the Makete website directly:

[www.maketetree.org](http://www.maketetree.org)

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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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