

Lanka Forum on Rural Transport Development



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Introduction

The Lanka Forum on Rural Transport Development (LFRTD) is a network of organizations and people in the state sector and the non state sector aiming to improve the quality of the life of rural communities by reducing their transport burden and poverty. LFRTD is affiliated to the International forum on Rural Transport Development (IFRTD).

LFRTD was launched in 1995.

Registration (No. NA 778)

Lanka Forum on Rural Transport Development (LFRTD) has been registered under the companies Act No. 17 of 1982 as a limited company.

Membership

Membership includes Ministries, Government Organizations, Private organizations/ Associations, Universities, Non Governmental Organizations, Small Networks and individuals interested and involved in the transport sector.

- The member base of LFRTD has now increased to 76 (59 Male and 17 Female).
- Executive committee- 15 members(07 women)

Activities in General

- LFRTD primarily works to bring the voice of rural communities to the policy table.
- Facilitates governmental and nongovernmental organizations to design, develop and demonstrate transport systems and modes sensitive to the rural community needs.
- Advocacy, knowledge sharing and the development of partnerships.

Activities carried out during recent past

- LFRTD Annual Sessions – 2008. Presentations were made on
 1. A hybrid electric bus transport system
 2. Rural Transport - Meeting the future Challenges
 3. Energy for Rural Transport
- Represented SEACAP Practitioner Workshop held in Vietnam
- Evaluation of the Community – Managed bus service

LFRTD was instrumental in introducing a novel concept to address the rural transport needs. Thus a community managed bus service was initiated. LFRTD conducted an evaluation of this project focused on the following aspects.

1. Socio Economic and environmental impacts of the project
2. Management of the project by the community
3. Lessons that could be learnt

- National Transport Policy

LFRTD and Development with Disabled Network had a joint session and made several recommendations and proposals to the National Transport Policy.

- LFRTD held an advocacy workshop on “Developing Disability – Sensitive Transport Infrastructure” in collaboration with the Development with Disabled Network, Leonard Cheshire Disability South Asia region, Basic Needs Sri Lanka and Voluntary Service Overseas. This was well attended. A committee under Secretary, Ministry of social Services was set up to follow up decisions came out at the workshop.

- LFRTD Annual Sessions – 2009

Presentation were made on

1. Disability and Transport
2. Transport and Disaster
3. Transport and Safety

Thank You