



# **IFRTD** The International Forum for Rural Transport and Development

**Executive Committee Meeting**

**5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> December 2007**

**Bern, Switzerland**

**Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC),  
Humanitarian Aid Office, Sagestrasse 77, Koniz, Bern.**

## Abbreviations:

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| <b>CoPs:</b>   | Communities of Practice                                       |
| <b>BPD:</b>    | Building Partnerships for Development in Water and Sanitation |
| <b>Danida:</b> | Danish International Development Agency                       |
| <b>DFID:</b>   | Department for International Development, UK                  |
| <b>EC:</b>     | Executive Committee (IFRTD)                                   |
| <b>ECM:</b>    | Executive Committee Meeting (IFTRD)                           |
| <b>GATNET:</b> | Gender and Transport Network                                  |
| <b>gTKP:</b>   | global Transport Knowledge Partnership                        |
| <b>IFRTD:</b>  | International Forum for Rural Transport and Development       |
| <b>ILO:</b>    | International Labour Organisation                             |
| <b>IISD:</b>   | International Institute for Sustainable Development           |
| <b>NFG:</b>    | National Forum Group (IFRTD)                                  |
| <b>MIT:</b>    | Mexican Institute of Transport                                |
| <b>PIARC:</b>  | World Road Association  |
| <b>SCIH:</b>   | Swiss Centre for International Health                         |
| <b>SDC:</b>    | Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation                  |
| <b>Sida:</b>   | Swedish International Development Corporation Agency          |
| <b>Skat:</b>   | Swiss Resource Centre and Consultancies for Development       |
| <b>SSATP:</b>  | Sub-Saharan Africa Transport Policy Program                   |

## Participants:

**Abdul Shakoor** – Pakistan NFG, Asia Representative  
**Alfonso Balbuena** – Member LA Executive Committee, LA Representative  
**Almas Saleem** – Pakistan NFG, Asia Representative  
**Ana Bravo** – Regional Coordinator (IFRTD Latin America)  
**Andrew Scott** – Policy & Programmes Director (Practical Action)  
**Camilla Lema** – Transport Specialist, Co-opted IFRTD EC Member  
**Christel Jost** – Helvetas, Burkina Faso, Presenter Mobility and Health  
**Danang Parikesit** – Chair of IFRTD  
**Heather Creech** – IISD, IFRTD Capacity Assessment Consultant  
**Juerg Christen** - Managing Director, Senior Social Infrastructure and Environmental Management Specialist (Skat)  
**Juliette Harries** – Office Coordinator (IFRTD)  
**Kate Czuczman** – Editor and Communications Coordinator (IFRTD)  
**Malin Ahrne** – Programme Officer (Sida, core donor)  
**Marinke van Riet** – Executive Secretary (IFRTD)  
**LuzMarina Monsalve Friedman** – Colombia NFG, LA Representative  
**Nelly Mtaki** – Tanzanian NFG, East Africa representative  
**Paul Starkey** – Rural Transport Specialist, Co-opted IFRTD EC Member  
**Paul Kwamusi** – Uganda NFG, East Africa representative  
**Peter Njenga** – Regional Coordinator (IFRTD East & Southern Africa)  
**Peter Roberts** - DFID  
**Priyanthi Fernando** – GATNET Representative  
**Ranjith de Silva** – Regional Coordinator (IFRTD Asia)  
**Restu Novitarini Djarwoningrum** – Indonesian NFG, Asia representative  
**Roger Schmid** –Transport Specialist/Water and Environmental Specialist (Skat)  
**Sani Yahaya** – Niger NFG, West Africa representative  
**Terje Tessem** – Chief Employment Intensive Investment Programme (ILO Geneva), Institutional member  
**Thomas Zeller** – Co-Head - Social Development Division (SDC, core donor)  
**Tracey Keatman** – BPD, IFRTD Capacity Assessment Consultant  
**Vero Razafintsalama** – Madagascan NFG, West Africa Representative  
**Guy Kemtsop** – Regional Coordinator West and Central Africa

These minutes feature key discussions that took place and decisions that were made. The presentations are referred to by title and can be requested on a CD from the IFRTD Secretariat. If you would like a copy of this CD-ROM please email [juliette.harries@ifrtd.org](mailto:juliette.harries@ifrtd.org).

## Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December IFRTD Governance Day

**Welcome and Introductions:** By Chairperson, Danang Parikesit and the ECM.

### **Minutes of IFRTD ECM 2006/Agenda for ECM 2007**

**Decision:**

With the following comments, the minutes of the 2006 ECM were unanimously adopted:

*As a result of ECM discussions last year the strategy placed gender higher on the values list and overall placed more emphasis on gender equality in the final document now available.*

**Decision:**

The agenda for the 2007 ECM was accepted.

### **Regional Presentations**

#### **Latin American Presentation: Regional Activities 2007 and Work Plan 2008 (Alfonso Balbuena)**

**Discussion Points/Comments:**

- Outcome Mapping will continue to be used to assess the strengths and weaknesses in the performance of NFG's with different models as exist in Latin America.
- Regional Funding: It was agreed at the Latin America Regional Meeting that in future, instead of using funds to hold Regional Meetings, small sums of money will be made available to NFG's in rotation to act as an incentive for them to carrying out useful work. NFGs are to apply for this money by submitting a work plan.
- Equal gender representation was achieved at the Regional Meeting this year and this is an important step in addressing gender issues; however it was agreed that the gender efforts of IFRTD need to go beyond equal representation to more in depth gender analysis and action.
- Increasing IFRTD's impact on Pro-Poor Transport Policies:  
Continue to identify key people to influence and ensure pro-poor rural transport issues are increasingly featured in policies; be adaptable and approach sectors other than transport.
- The World Bank Transport Indicators Workshop held in Latin America this year was a great success, credit was given to Ana Bravo for this. Peter Roberts identified the success of the workshop as an example of great use of IFRTD's increasing skills and knowledge, capacity and language experience.
- Danida have projects in Nicaragua and Ana will continue to try and build relations with them.
- PIARC: are currently liaising closely with the Mexican Institute of Transport on holding the 2011 PIARC Congress in Mexico.



**Decision:**

It was agreed that the PIARC Congress is a forum in which IFRTD must have a greater voice in order to impact on pro-poor rural transport policies. In order to do this IFRTD need to ensure that they have a seat on the TC2.5 Rural Roads and Accessibility Technical Committee. Terje Tessem from ILO recommended that IFRTD works closely with ILO to ensure that IFRTD achieve a seat on TC2.5.

It was agreed that the IFRTD Secretariat will create an agenda to ensure this outcome, drawing on support from the ILO, Alfonso Balbuena and the Mexican Institute of Transport.

- Transport and the Environment were featured at the Regional Meeting 2006, and with Safety continue to be key issues in Latin America.

**Decision:**

*The Latin American Work Plan 2008 was agreed.*

**West and Central Africa Presentation: Activities 2007 and Work Plan 2008  
(Vero Razafintsalama and Sani Yahaya)****Discussion Points/Comments:**

- Challenges facing the West and Central Africa region include:

IFRTD visibility in the region is low.

There is currently a lack of trustful and productive relationships between NFG's and Governments. It will take time and concerted efforts to improve these relationships.

Lack of a physical address for some NFGs makes securing funding particularly challenging. It is planned that more NFG's will secure physical addresses to overcome this and that regional level funding opportunities will be pursued more vigorously.

There is a need to review and update the existing database of members for the region and set up a database of currently active members. Regional Meetings may become bi-annual. Decisions need to be taken around whether to develop NFG's or Institutional members.

- Rural transport courses should be pursued further within the region. Universities in Cameroon could learn from the Lanka Forum for Rural Transport and Development's work on rural transport and the Gadj Mada University in Indonesia.
- Road Safety Research: the nature and relevance of this work in the region was questioned; Guy Kemtsop reported that road safety is a good entry point for wider rural transport safety issues. The African Regional Safety Workshop was funded by the World Bank's SSATP.

**Decision:**

The West and Central Africa Work Plan 2008 was agreed.

**East and Southern Africa Presentation: Activities 2007 and Work Plan 2008  
(Paul Kwamusi)****Discussion Points/Comments:**

- Makete Project: Dissemination of the Makete work needs to be done in workshops that are not just about roads, but within a wider audience of rural transport development.
- ILO are interested in working with IFRTD to disseminate Makete on the back of other events.

**Decision:**

The East and South Africa Work Plan 2008 was agreed.

**Asia Presentation: Activities 2007 and Work Plan 2008  
(Almas Saleem, Restu Novitarini Djarwoningrum)**

**Discussion Points/Comments:**

- Is IFRTD doing enough to influence the donor agenda and what is the role of IFRTD in influencing donors? eg. the rural roads maintenance agenda which is difficult to influence.

IFRTD needs to be cautious to maintain its integrity and not to become an instrument of the agendas of funding institutions. IFRTD's role should be to create resources in knowledge and expertise and also tools that can be taken up by donors, as in the case of the Helvetas approach to building roads in Nepal that was adopted by the World Bank.

- Is IFRTD engaging adequately with the private sector, for example, transport service operators?

It was agreed that the mapping of IFRTD/NFG members in all regions would be a very useful exercise and helpful in exploring new collaborations at the national level.

Mapping would help prioritise the Asian and other work plans for 2008 where the number of issues that need addressing are overwhelming.

The engagement of IFRTD with ILO Asia was commended, and other regions should explore this collaboration.

- IFRTD in Asia need to engage more with AUSAID, a major regional player.
- How do NFG's relate to national governments and donors? And how can IFRTD achieve its vision and mission at the national level in this context?

The role of NFG's is to understand the positions of national governments and donors, engage with both to seek to highlight IFRTD's stance, seek to influence theirs, and to assist with creating a dialogue and awareness between the two.

Revisit the pro poor vision and mission of IFRTD for guidance. Work with other sectors than the transport sector, for example infrastructure, to influence and highlight IFRTD's stance.

**Decision:**

The Asia Work Plan 2008 was agreed.

**Secretariat Report for 2007 – Activities and Expenses 2006 - 2007**

The Secretariat presented to the ECM on the Activities and Expenses of IFRTD 2006 – 2007.



Position papers will be developed on certain issues, starting in the Central and West Africa region. This is a way of retaining impetus even though there is not currently capacity for a new Networked Research Programme. The network will be consulted for input and involved in dissemination.

NFG's need clear positions on issues such as climate change.

**Decision Point:**

The 2008 Work Plan and Budget were approved

**IFRTD – gTKP Theme Champion**

**Discussion:**

The Secretariat reported that IFRTD will no longer be the DFID supported gTKP's Theme Champion – for rural transport. Rob Petts of Intech Associates has been newly appointed to this role. To date there has been no official communication or explanation of this decision to IFRTD.

gTKP have recently undergone significant management changes and is no longer managed by Price Waterhouse Coopers but instead by the TFUP resource centre, under the WSP Group.

The Secretariat reported that IFRTD has some concerns about transparency in gTKP's decision-making processes and governance, which have come to light during this transition phase. Peter Njenga, as a member of the gTKP Interim Governing Board has not been informed or consulted in the last couple of months about the recent management changes.

The ECM discussed how IFRTD should respond to this matter.

**Decision:**

The ECM gave the Secretariat the mandate to communicate to DFID on their behalf their concern about transparency and governance issues in the operation of gTKP.

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December – IFRTD Strategy Day**  
***Taking the Strategy Forward***

**Introduction to the IFRTD Capacity Assessment 2007/2008**

Preparing for Independence  
Marinke van Riet

**Sharing the First Results of the Capacity Assessment**

By Heather Creech, IISD, IFRTD Capacity Assessment Consultant

**Building Partnerships for Development in Water and Sanitation,**

Experience of Becoming Independent  
Tracey Keatman, BPDWS

**Governance Options**

Facilitated by Heather Creech

**Decisions:**



### The EC agreed to move forward on Option 2 of the governance options

- Legal members are the same as a small Board
- Small Board – drawn from EC & outsiders if required
- EC remains as advisory group responsible for strategic direction of IFRTD
- Board takes strategic direction from EC – relationship spelled out in Memorandum and Articles of Association (MAAAs)

### The board will have the following composition

- Up to 9 people – Criteria:
  - At least 1 person from each region (supports regional co-ordinator).
  - Preferably from South.
  - Representative of different expertise
  - At least one strong fundraiser.
  - At least 1 member based in London/UK (prob treasurer).
  - Gender balance – difference in number between genders can not exceed more than 1
- State that 1 Board Director (the Treasurer) is UK-based for founding Board (for practical issues of first 2 years)
- Principles & rules should represent diversity
- Skills set & combination to manage a company (fundraising, finance / treasurer, HR, management, representational element, etc)
- Ability to co-opt people to fill any capacity gaps (1 or 2 not from EC)
- Principles embedded in MAAAs or more open to interpretation by the Board?
- Directors ToRs – stating roles & responsibilities, time commitment, etc
- Process for decision-making – have **sub-committee** drawn from EC to work with Secretariat on the details. Draft goes to all EC for comment. Board elected / chosen.

**Sub-committee/task force consists of the following people:** IFRTD's Executive Secretary, Chair: Dr Danang Parikesit plus 1 person per region

- *LA:* Luz Marina Monsalve Friedman
- *E & S Africa:* Nelly Mtaki
- *W & C Africa:* Sani Yahaya
- *Asia:* Priyanthi Fernando

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## **IFRTD and Gender Mainstreaming**

### **Discussion:**

Further to the agreement to ensure that Gender representation is achieved on IFRTD's new Board, a discussion occurred on how IFRTD can refresh and further its Gender mainstreaming activities in 2008.

### **Decision:**

It was agreed that it would be appropriate for GATNET to assist IFRTD with this objective in association with the Secretariat, and Priyanthi, as the GATNET representative at the ECM will take this proposal back to GATNET.

# Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December - *Organisational Learning Day*

## *TransNet Workshop (Hosted by Skat at SDC Head Office)*

### *“Mobility and Health: Results of the International Networked Research Programme”*

The aim of the TransNet workshop was to share the findings and recommendations of the International Networked Research Programme on Mobility and Health (IFRTD, Skat, SCIH, SDC, Sida) and to discuss the implications and strategic considerations for both the transport and health sectors.

In addition to this main theme, presentations were made by SDC on pro poor transport infrastructure and also on a recently held workshop on Mobility and Rural Roads in Chad, facilitated by Skat and funded by SDC.

The event facilitated knowledge sharing on past, current and forthcoming activities and initiatives in the sector and bilateral exchange and informal network amongst the workshop participants.

#### **The Workshop**

#### **Mobility and Health: Results of the International Networked Research – Part 1**

The International Networked Research Programme: Background and Methodology  
**Marinke van Riet**

Presentation of Research Results from 3 Countries:

- i. Movilidad rural de las mujeres hacia los servicios de salud. Estudio de caso de un municipio en México.  
**Alfonso Balbuena.**  
(The rural mobility of women visiting health services. A case study of a municipality in Mexico)
- ii. L'impact du désenclavement sur la santé des populations a L'Est du Burkina Faso.  
**Christel Jost**  
(The impact of increased access on the health of the population in East Burkina Faso)
- iii. Small scale mobility interventions and their impacts on the health status of communities residing in disaster prone areas of Pakistan. **Abdul Shakoor**

Initiating a dialogue between health and transport:

- i. Hospitals, doctors, drugs are not enough. **Thomas Zeller**
- ii. What are the health implications of the transport sector. **Malin Ahrne**

#### **Mobility and Health: Results of the International Networked Research – Part II**

How can health and transport work together?

Working with health and transport sectors: A practical example from the Azerbaijan Highway II Project. **Kate Molesworth, SCIH**



## **Pro Poor Infrastructure**

Potentials and the Role of Transport Infrastructure in Pro Poor Growth Promotion  
**Reto Wieser, SDC**

## **Mobility and Rural Roads, West Africa**

Mobilité et pistes rurales en Afrique de L'Ouest: SDC Atelier d'échange d'expériences et de réflexions conjointes, Septembre 2007, N'Djamena, Tchad.

**Salam Yameogo, Helvetas/Roger Schmid, Skat**

(SDC workshop to share experiences and opinions, N'Djamena, Chad)

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For further information on this event and to access the presentation online, please click on this link.  
<http://www.trans-web.ch/transnet/transnet11/default.htm>

