

NETWORKING FOR SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

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IFRTD

STRUCTURE OF PRESENTATION

- What is IFRTD?
- Characteristics of rural transport
- Southern-driven agenda for development

WHAT IS IFRTD

- IFRTD is the International Forum for Rural Transport and Development
- A global network of individuals and organizations working together towards improved access and mobility for the rural poor in developing countries
- Currently having approx. 4,000 members
- 30 National Forum Groups
- Based in London, UK with 4 regional coordinator offices: (Eastern & Southern Africa (in Kenya), West & Central Africa (in Cameroon), Asia and the Pacific (in Sri Lanka), and Latin America (in Peru)
- Currently supported by the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (SDC), and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) as core donors.



IFRTD APPROACH: A NETWORKED RESEARCH APPROACH

- A major challenge for researchers and those supporting research activities related to development and poverty reduction is to ensure that findings are relevant to and taken up by poor people and those who work with them.
- In response to this challenge the Forum has developed a networked research methodology that brings together people from different countries and contexts, and builds ownership and communication into the design of the research programme itself.
- This has demonstrated several significant impacts:
 - Encourages learning and sharing across geographical and hierarchical boundaries.
 - Harnesses local knowledge, experience and latent research skills.
 - Creates national ownership of research findings.
 - Stimulates debate at local and national level.
 - Creates opportunities to raise awareness of the issues and commits a wide range of stakeholders to their resolution.



INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES

- International networked research:
 - Gender and Transport
 - Poverty Watch (Poverty & Transport)
 - Waterways and Livelihoods
 - Mobility and Health
- Development toolkit
 - The Toolkit in Promoting Sustainability in Rural Transport Infrastructure
- Collaborative program with the World Bank
 - Transport Indicators



The development of bicycle ambulance will significantly improve health services



INNOVATION THAT MATTER



Source: Practical Actions Nepal Homepage, accessed 21/08/2008



Gravity ropeways

Bicycle ambulance

Trail bridges

Combined boat-motorcycle

Source: Parikesit, 2003



SMALL INVESTMENT THAT MATTERS

Table 4. Selected Human Development Indicators and Road Access.

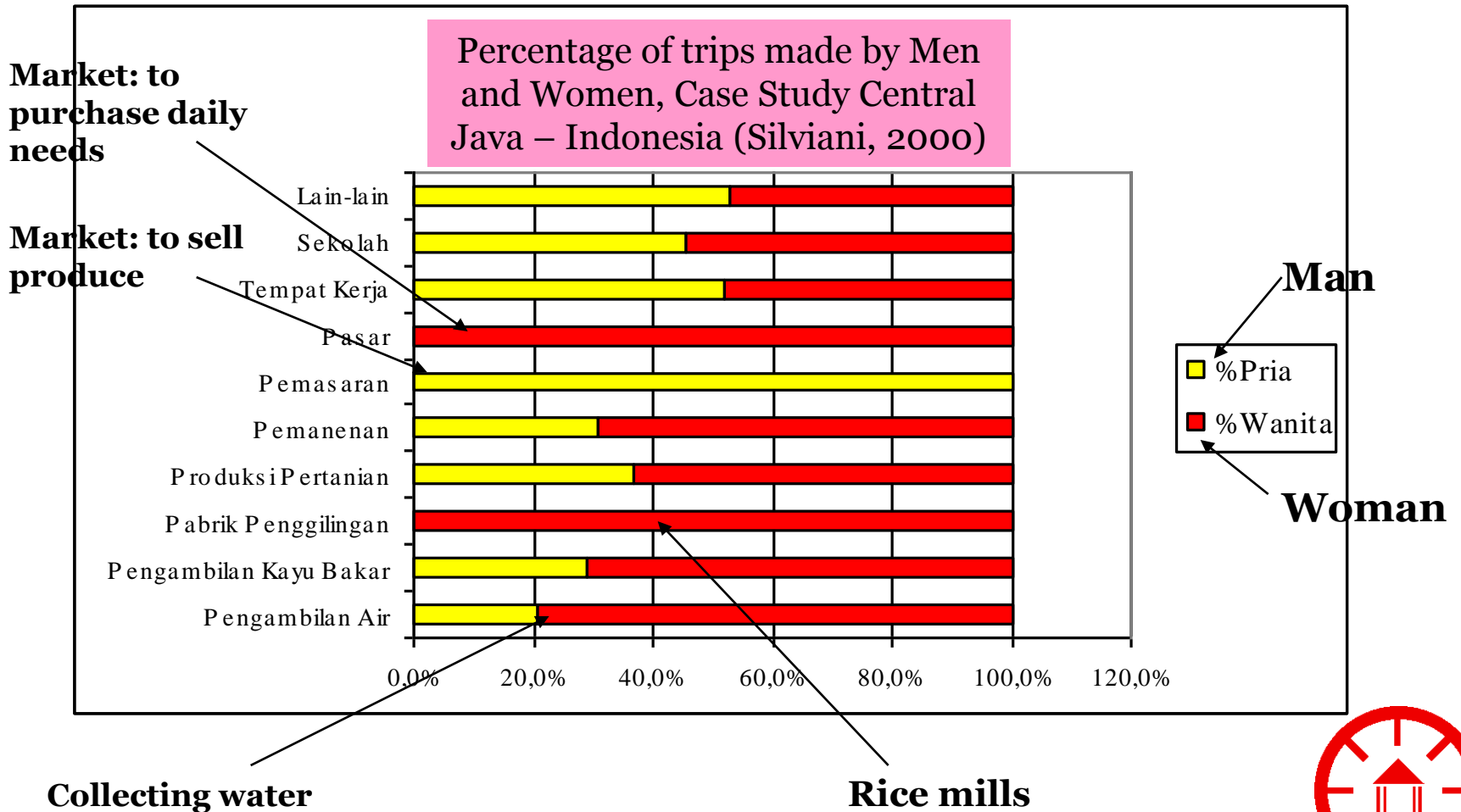
Indicator	Villages with all-weather motorable roads	Villages without all-weather motorable roads
Girls Net Primary School Enrollment Rate (NER)	41%	27%
Boys Net Primary School Enrollment Rate (NER)	56%	49%
Females Literacy Rate (10 years and above)	23%	13%
Males Literacy Rate (10 years and above)	53%	44%
Immunization Coverage ⁽¹⁾	54%	46%
Contraceptive Prevalence Rate ⁽²⁾	19%	12%
Pre-natal consultation	28%	14%
Births assisted by skilled attendant	58%	39%
Births at home	85%	91%
Post-natal consultation	7%	5%

⁽¹⁾ Fully immunized 12-23 months based on recall and record.
⁽²⁾ Percentage of married women of age 15-49 who ever used contraception.
Source. PIHS 2001-02.

Improved access creates opportunity for children to participate in education process, improve maternal health and reduce infant mortality



BALANCING THE LOAD: TRANSPORT AND GENDER



INFORMATION: FORUM NEWS

- Children and Mobility and Rural Transport Safety *Feb 07*
- State of Rural Transport and Development *July 07*
- Rural Transport and Governance *Dec 07*
- *Bicycles and Poverty* June 2008



INFORMATION: WEBSITE

- Maintenance and Update of French, Spanish & English sites
www.ruralwaterways.org,
www.ifrtd.org and
www.mobilityandhealth.org
- Ongoing development of site content and database driven News Section
- Monthly e-newsletter: well received, tripled web hits
- Opinions Fair resulted in content for issue pages



INFORMATION: IFRTD UPDATES

This is an information dissemination tool with a thematic focus

- Two issues in 2007:
 - Strategy – February 07
 - Gravity Ropeways – Aug 07



ADVOCACY

- Support to national and regional advocacy initiatives
eg. PMGSY (India), SLUAT (environment and transport in Latin America), advocating Health & Mobility sectors in Nepal
- Engaging with the International Development Agenda
 - Millennium Development Goals (mid-term review)
 - Economic Commission for Africa (Rural Transport Safety)
 - Bretton Woods Project UK
 - Infrastructure Consortium for Africa (ICA)
 - Global Forum for Health Research
 - Environment and Climate Change
 - WB and SSATP (ARTA)
 - Construction Sector Transparency Initiative (CoST)



FUNDING PARTNERSHIPS

- Communication & collaboration with core donors –

Swedish International Development Agency



Swiss Development Corporation



KNOWLEDGE GAPS: WHAT 15-YEARS OF NETWORKING HAS TAUGHT US?

- Already some essential knowledge and understanding on rural transport have been generated, but still
- Example of thematic knowledge generation and sharing
 - Transport and rural off-farm activities
 - Transport and rural investment
(<http://www.worldbank.org/id/rica>)
 - Transport and disability
 - Cross border trade and transport corridors
 - Rural transport hubs
 - Accessibility for disaster prevention
- Advocacy and partnership
 - Sensitizing international donors
 - Partnership with development organizations and NGOs
 - Capacity improvement of National Forum Groups to make a change



Few Activities in Asia and the Pacific

- Facilitate South- South direct knowledge & experience transfer (e.g. between Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, Nepal and Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal, India and Sri Lanka)
- Maintaining a network of members and organisations for mutual benefits
- Provide information and links for technical and other information.
- Working closely with regional institutions (e.g. ILO, SEACAP, gTKP, ADB, Practical Action, Helvetas etc) and develop high agenda for RT.
- Promote inclusive transport that enhances the mobility of People with Disabilities, Communities vulnerable to disasters and utilization of good practices of sustainable Rural Road Maintenance and RT services.
- Facilitate South-South knowledge transfer of best practices of mountainous Transport interventions (from Nepal to other countries) with Nepal Networks (NFRTD and NTBF) with Helvetas Nepal.



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