

NETWORKING EVENTS

The Second World Urban Forum, September 13-17, 2004
United Nations Human Settlement Programme

Networking Events

Despite the many benefits of globalization, we are living in a world where international conflicts are being played out on every street corner. Many cities suffer from a historical urban process that segregates minorities and marginalizes the poor. The 2nd World Urban Forum in Barcelona will discuss and debate the role of cities as centres of culture, inclusiveness and integration. This informal gathering offers government representatives, local authorities, NGOs, urban professionals, academics and ordinary citizens a forum to discuss some of the most pressing urban issues facing the world in the new millennium. Over 90 networking events have been planned to allow participants to catch up on urban trends and conditions and to exchange information and experiences on what works and what doesn't work in the world's cities.

The Role of Cities in an Information Age: ICT Application for Urban Development

Description of event:

This event will focus on the application of information and communication technologies (ICTs) in urban development, city governance, health, housing, tourism, local socio-economic sustainable development in cities, social integration and culture of peace, viable rural-urban linkages and integration of marginal economic sectors (informal sector of cities into the global economic network. The outcome will be used to establish urban Educational Resource Centres and ICT applications for urban development.

Name of organization:

International Research Foundation for Development.

Description of organization:

The International Research Foundation for Development is an autonomous, non-partisan, transnational organization composed of an international community of contemplative thinkers, policy-makers, practitioners, and laypersons who are making a concerted effort to improve the quality of life at various levels of the world. Currently IRFD is planning to implement a project on ICT application for development in marginalized communities.

Partner organizations:

TEK Foundation

The International Research Foundation for Development(IRFD) East Asia Network

Confirmed speakers:

Mr. Vijay Parmer, Policy Specialist, Directorate, Bureau for Resources and Strategic Partnerships, UNDP

Mr. Raul Zambrano, Policy Advisor, E-Governance, UNDP

Mr. Richard Kerby, UN-DESA

Dr. Neville S. Arachchige Don, President/CEO, International Research Foundation for Development

Dr. Thomas Robbins, CEO, TEK Foundation, USA

Mr. Divino Roberto Verissimo, Executive Director, Organizatizacao Pela Preservacao Ambiental, Brazil

Professor William H. Gray, Director, Washington State University

Dr Graham Clarke, Inhabited Intelligent Environments Research Group, University of Essex, UK

Dr. Vic Callaghan, Inhabited Intelligent Environments Research Group, University of Essex, UK

Dr. Thomas Viteorisz, Associate Professor, Urban Planning Programme, Columbia University and Cornell University, USA

Mr. Matias Enchanove, Affiliate, Center on Organizational Innovation, Columbia University, USA, Institute of Socio-Information and Communication Studies, University of Tokyo, Japan

Dr. Danilo Yanich, Associate Professor, Graduate School of Urban Affairs & Public Policy, University of Delaware Newark, USA

Professor Kirpal Singh, Singapore Management University, Singapore

Contact information:

Mr. Neville S. Arachchige Don

President/CEO

IRFD

neville@irfd.org