

IRF presents view on Urban PPPs in St. Petersburg

On 16 and 17 December 2008, a Euroconvention seminar on **Financing Infrastructure, Municipalities and Regional Development in Russia** was organized in St.Petersburg, Russia. The focus of the seminar was on the ambitious infrastructure and PPP programmes currently being advocated in Russia and which are likely to provide a vast amount of infrastructure finance. In view of deteriorating economic circumstances, the seminar was organized to ensure sustained support and enthusiasm for the planned projects.

Among leading specialists from international institutions and financial and legal advisors, Caroline Visser represented the IRF on this occasion, presenting to the audience recent work on **Public Private Partnerships in the urban context**. The discussion among the some 70 participants focused on the need for sustained political support for projects and the capacity needed from side of the public sector to bring projects to a fruitful partnership.



IRF Geneva's Caroline Visser presented Urban Road PPPs in St. Petersburg

The theme of Urban PPPs for roads is currently under development in the framework of the activities of **IRF's Working Group on PPP**. Operating in an urban environment is challenging since there are many stakeholders involved, planned functions (like living, working, traveling) are intertwined and because typically, urban road networks are dense and have not much room to expand. Exchange of best practice and knowledge about these complex projects is therefore essential. The working group is currently undertaking case studies of remarkable Urban PPP projects and assembles the lessons learned for dissemination among IRF members.