

**ISS offers a refresher course for NFP alumni on
“GLOBALIZATION AND LABOUR”
with the Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka (IPS)
in September 2010**

ISS joins hands with IPS for capacity building in “GLOBALIZATION AND LABOUR”

The International Institute of Social Studies of Erasmus University Rotterdam (ISS) in collaboration with the Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka, Colombo (IPS) has recently won a grant by the Netherlands Organization for International Cooperation in Higher Education (Nuffic) to conduct a refresher course for alumni of the Netherlands Fellowship Programmes (NFP) on “GLOBALIZATION AND LABOUR: NEW GLOBAL STRATEGIES TO ORGANIZE WORK, IMPACT ON LABOUR AND THE REACTIONS OF SOCIETY” in Colombo, Sri Lanka. ISS faculty involved are [Dr. Freek Schiphorst](#) and [Dr. Karin Astrid Siegmann](#), while Professor E.A. Ramaswamy is invited as visiting staff. [Dr. Nisha Arunatilake](#) is the course coordinator on behalf of the IPS. The tentative dates for the course are September 10-24, 2010.

Challenges in a globalised world of work

Governments, trade unions and other organisations representing workers or working for labour rights face challenges in traditional (collective) approaches to guarantee decent working conditions. Global economic integration with a dispersion of employment in global value chains and the accompanying increasing informalisation of labour relations has been one of the most fundamental changes in the world of work, especially in developing countries.

One of the responses of lead firms in global production systems as well as international organisations has been the development of voluntary systems of labour rights governance in the form of corporate social responsibility (CSR). At the same time, policy-makers face a changed and changing world in which the coverage of traditional labour legislation is waning. Different stakeholders concerned with labour rights therefore need to build capacity regarding the transformations in the world of work triggered by economic globalization, as well as about reactions from civic society, the corporate sector and policy-makers for labour rights governance in order to assess their scope and effectiveness.

Course contents

The curriculum of the refresher course will consist of four modules:

- I. Introduction: Work and National Development in a Global Context
- II. Globalisation and the Transformations in the Worlds of Work
- III. Reactions from Civic Society, Corporate Sector and Policy Makers
- IV. Study and Field Visits (interspersed through modules II & III).

Application

ISS and IPS are inviting NFP alumni from the South and Southeast Asian region with relevant work experience and in a position to transfer acquired knowledge and skills within their organisation to submit applications for the refresher course. Participation in the course will be sponsored by Nuffic. The application deadline

is May 31, 2010. The selection committee will ensure that at least half of the participants are female. The application should be submitted to the Programme Administration of the ISS Specialisation Work, Employment and Globalisation (WEG) (see contact details below).

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