

Leiden-Delft-Erasmus Alliance, Centre for Frugal Innovation in Africa

DATE 20 October 2015                      SENDER                      Centre for Frugal Innovation in Africa  
E-MAIL    knorringa@iss.nl

RE                      Invitation CFIA workshop

Dear sir/madam,

Herewith we cordially invite you to attend the final session of our Frugal Innovation workshop on Friday, November 27, 2015, from 14.00 until 18.00 hour. Frugal Innovation is a relatively new concept of innovation with a focus on affordability, good-enough quality and functionality in resource-constrained, 'Base of the Pyramid' markets.

The workshop theme is "How can Frugal Innovations become Inclusive Innovations" and through research presentations, key-note speeches and an interactive brainstorm session we aim to come closer to an understanding of where and when inclusiveness is more likely to occur in frugal innovation processes. In case you are interested to also attend other parts of this two-day workshop, and would like to see a draft program of early-career research presentations on Thursday and Friday morning, please let us know.

Please find the program for the Friday afternoon session enclosed. We would appreciate it if you could confirm your presence via [harmesen@iss.nl](mailto:harmesen@iss.nl).

Yours faithfully,

Prof. dr. Cees van Beers, Delft University of Technology  
Dr. André Leliveld, Leiden University  
Prof. dr. Peter Knorringa, Erasmus University Rotterdam

## CFIA bi-annual workshop sponsored by EADI

“How can Frugal Innovations become Inclusive Innovations?”

**Date:** Friday 27 November 2015  
**Time:** 14.00 – 18.00  
**Location:** International Institute of Social Studies, Aula B  
Kortenaerkade 12, The Hague

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### Program

- 14.00 – 14.05 | Opening | Prof. dr. Peter Knorringa
- 14.05 – 14.45 | Plenary presentation | Dr. Saradindu Bhaduri: *Policies for Frugal Innovation in the Global South: a Critical Analysis*
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- Dr. Bhaduri is the 2015-2017 Prince Claus Chair on ‘Frugal Innovation and Development for Equity’.
- 14.45 – 15.00 | Questions and discussion
- 15.00 – 15.15 | Coffee break
- 15.15 – 16.50 | Brainstorm Carousel | Interactive Exchange of Thoughts: Case Studies of Frugal Innovation
- During three rounds participants will be invited to brainstorm in smaller groups about three case studies of their choice. The focus of the sessions will be on how to tackle new challenges with ongoing frugal innovations. Each case will have its own ‘table’, chaired by someone directly involved in that frugal innovation*
- 16.50 – 17.15 | Chairs reporting back to plenary on most useful suggestions on how to tackle their next challenge
- 17.15 – 17.30 | Wrap up | Prof. dr. Peter Knorringa
- 17.30 – 18.00 | Drinks

## Brainstorm Carousel: Interactive Exchange of Thoughts *Case Studies of Frugal Innovation*

- ❖ 'A Frugal Thermometer for rural East-Africa' *Presented by Dr. ir J.C. Diehl*

Developed under the CFIA umbrella by a multidisciplinary team of medical-anthropologists and industrial designers this thermometer is a robust, affordable and sustainable application of existing techniques, developed especially for the rural East African medical context. The Frugal Thermometer allows for reliable observation of fever on the one hand and prevents misdiagnosis and consequent unnecessary consumption of medicines and time-consuming and costly travel to the nearest doctor.



*Photograph taken by Asli team  
Delft University of Technology*

### Points of discussion:

- *How can the frugal thermometer be made available to remote rural communities?*
- *How can the frugal thermometer be embedded in triage and diagnostics systems in place?*

- ❖ 'The Trans-African Hydro-Meteorological Observatory (TAHMO), innovation hubs, and digital manufacturing: Past and future sensor competitions'  
*Presented by Prof. dr. ir. Nick van de Giesen / Nadine Rodewijk*

The Trans-African Hydro-Meteorological Observatory (TAHMO) aims to build, install, and operate 20,000 robust and cost efficient weather stations across sub-Saharan Africa. The stations will mainly be placed at schools to feed the environmental science curriculum. Data will be freely available for government and science. Commercial use of the data will be possible for a fee that will ensure financial sustainability of the system."



### Points of discussion:

- *So far, innovation in Africa has focused on software development. Digital manufacturing opens the way to move to hardware innovation.*
- *Competitions are a good way to build networks of innovators in Africa.*

❖ **'Sawdust Pellets, Cook Stoves and Charcoal in Zambia'** *Presented by Dr. Iva Peša*

Zambian example of a new type of cleaner, more sustainable cook stove and its fuel; pellets made of sawdust waste.



**Points of discussion:**

- *Top-down vs. Bottom-up: The challenges of making an innovation inclusive.*
- *Frugal Innovation and Economic Rationalism: Is it cheaper for households to use sawdust pellets or charcoal?*

❖ **Case study IV** *to be announced*