



**NGO FORUM
“TURNING POLICY INTO REALITY:
FROM THE GROUND UP”**

**28 AUGUST 2006 – 8.00am to 18.30pm
Cape Town International Convention Centre
Cape Town, South Africa**

FORUM OVERVIEW:

Environmental conservation, sustainable use of natural resources and livelihoods have emerged as a major concern over the years. The majority of rural communities depend on the environment for their livelihoods, notably health, income, food security, energy supplies and housing. Most governments now acknowledge that the fulfillment of basic needs, improved standards for all, better protected and better managed ecosystems and a safer and more prosperous future can only be achieved through the integration of environment and development concerns. It is for this reason that governments need to continue to integrate environmental concerns into national economic planning and policies.

However, recent assessments of sustainable development experiences in many developing countries indicate that overall sustainable socio-economic development remains elusive despite the immense wealth in natural resources and its potential to improve people's standards of living. In contrast, decades of rural development efforts in the developing countries have not paid off while depletion of natural resources has reached alarming levels.

A clean and an enabling environment is essential for both development and poverty eradication. Sadly, failure to address issues surrounding the sustainable use of natural resources for poverty eradication and improvement of poor people's livelihoods has left a lot of people disillusioned.

GOAL:

The goal of this Forum **“Turning Policy into Reality: From the Ground Up”** was to raise awareness of global environmental issues which have a negative impact on sustainable livelihoods, and poverty eradication and to stimulate a fruitful and focused dialogue and exchange amongst participants with a view to achieving the following:

OBJECTIVES:

1. Providing an opportunity for NGOs, Indigenous People's groups and rural and urban communities to participate and contribute their knowledge and expertise to discussions on the global environment, sustainable livelihood, and poverty eradication.
2. Bringing to the attention of governments and regional organizations, the capacity and contributions of these groups to address global environmental challenges and offering recommendations on to how best to incorporate their perspectives into policies and strategies that make a difference at the local level.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

It was expected that the Forum would yield the following:

- Active and rich dialogue, sharing of ideas, knowledge and experience.
- Policy recommendations and perspectives of NGOs.
- Identification of areas for collaboration and partnership between NGOs and other stakeholders.

- Visibility of global environmental challenges and solutions.
- Better understanding by governments of the mutual benefits that can be achieved by working together with civil society and NGOs.

FORUM TOPICS AND STRUCTURE:

The Forum was divided into three sessions that discussed the following topics:

- **Impact of Land Degradation on People's Livelihoods and the Environment – Strategies for SLM**
- **The Climate and Energy Challenge**
- **Biodiversity – Move from Debate to Action**

Each session had a presenter and discussants. A moderator oversaw all sessions and guided the discussions.

The three sessions were followed by a panel of short presentations before the final wrap and closing.

MONDAY 28 AUGUST 2006

08h00 – 08h30	Registration, Welcome and Introductions – Ms. Dorothy Manuel, Central Focal Point (CFP) for the GEF NGO Network
08h30 – 09h00	Opening Remarks – Ms Monique Barbut – CEO Global Environment Facility (GEF)
09h00 - 09h15	Workshop Opening Session Forum Moderator – Ambassador Rex Horoi, Executive Director, The Foundation of Peoples of the South Pacific International
09h15 – 10h45	Impact of Land Degradation on People’s Livelihoods and the Environment –Strategies for SLM Moderator for Session 1 – Mr. Rajen Awotar, Executive Chair, Council for Development Environmental Studies and Conservation, (Maudesco) Presenter: Combating Desertification in the Horn of Africa -Ms. Fatima Jibrell, Head of Horn Africa and winner, 2002 Goldman Environmental Award Discussants: Ms. Khadija Razavi, Executive Director, Center for Sustainable Development and Environment (CENESTA) Mr. Hubertus Samangun, Indigenous People’s Network Dr. Jonathan Davies, Global Coordinator of WISP Mr. Noel Maxwell Oettlé, Rural Programme Manager, Environmental Monitoring Group (EMG) Questions and Discussion
10h45 – 11h15	Tea and Coffee Break

11h15 – 13h00	<p>The Climate Change and Energy Challenge</p> <p><u>Moderator for Session 2</u> – Leslie Walling, Executive Director, Caribbean Conservation Association (CCA)</p> <p>Presenters: Mr. Richard Worthington – Earthlife Africa, Sustainable Energy and Climate Change Project Coordinator</p> <p>Dr. Emad Adly, The Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED)</p> <p><u>Discussants:</u> Mr. Salah Sahabi, Generali Secretary, Association de Recherche sur le Climat et l’Environnement (ARCE)</p> <p>Mr. Djimingue Nanasta, ENDA Tiers Monde</p> <p>Ms. Annie Sugrue, Southern Africa Co-ordinator, Citizens United for Renewable energy and Sustainability (CURES)</p>
13h00 – 14h30	<p>Lunch</p>
14h30 – 16h00	<p>Biodiversity – Moving from Debate to Action?</p> <p><u>Moderator of Session 3</u> – Mr. Felipe Villagran, Chief Executive Officer MERO LEC A.C.</p> <p><u>Presenter:</u> Professor. Willem F Van Riet, Peace Parks Foundation, South Africa</p> <p><u>Discussants:</u> Mr. German Rocha, Corporacion Pais Solidario (CPS)</p> <p>Ms. Lucy Mullenkei, Indigenous Information Network</p> <p>Mr. Zymantas Morvenas, Baltic Environmental Forum</p>
16h00 - 16h30	<p>Tea and Coffee Break</p>

16h30 – 17h30	<p>Panelist</p> <p>Water and Gender Alliances– Ms. Marianna Sell, Deputy Director, Instituto Ipanema</p> <p>Capacity Strengthening for Civil Society in the Least Developed Countries on Adaptation to Climate Change (CLACC): Asia(Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal) and Africa (Western, Eastern, Southern) – Mr. Johannes Chigwada, ZERO</p> <p>Social Impacts of Environmental Services’ Markets – Ms. Simone Lovera, Campaign Coordinator, Global Forest Coalition</p> <p>Management and Conservation of Wetland Biodiversity of the Esteros del Ibera – Dr. Maria Leichener, Executive Director Fundación ECOS</p> <p>Questions and Discussion</p>
17h30 – 18h10	<p>Summary of all Sessions- Forum Moderator, Ambassador Rex Horoi, Executive Director, The Foundation of Peoples of the South Pacific International</p>
18h10 – 18h30	<p>Closing Remarks – Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director of UNEP</p>

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS –DOROTHY MANUEL: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ZERO REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT ORGANIZATION AND THE CENTRAL FOCAL POINT (CFP) FOR THE GEF NGO NETWORK. (NOTE: SHE STILL CURRENTLY HOLDS THE POSITION OF REGIONAL FOCAL POINT (RFP) FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA).

ZERO Regional Environment Organization (ZERO) is a premier research, planning and implementation agency operating in the Southern African region since 1987, whose core operating values are to be efficient, effective and ethical in its research and development work. ZERO believes in and works for a global paradigm shift, changing minds and promoting prosperity for all. Its mission is to work with rural and urban communities and other partners to foster balanced, healthy growth and self-reliance within a rapidly changing world. ZERO's dynamic vision and mission statement are reflective of a local agency, functioning globally.

Dorothy Manuel, the newly elected Central Focal Point (CFP) for the GEF NGO Network welcomed all present to the first GEF NGO Network Forum – a landmark achievement and the first in the history of the GEF Assemblies. In her opening address, Dorothy highlighted the NGO Forum's role in ensuring the centrality of civil society in the GEF. In closing her opening statement, she wished all participants a fruitful and successful day.

OPENING REMARKS – MONIQUE BARBUT: THE NEWLY ELECTED CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

The Global Environment Facility (GEF), established in 1991, helps developing countries fund projects and programs that protect the global environment. The GEF's mandate is to make the connection between local and global environmental challenges and between national and international efforts to conserve biodiversity, reduce the risks of climate change, protect the ozone layer, clean up international waters, stop land degradation and eliminate persistent organic pollutants.

The GEF is also the only multi-convention facility and is now the major source of funding for the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). But the GEF is not just a funding mechanism; it also leverages the international system to support the global environment. In essence, the GEF acts as a catalyst for improving the global environment, which is increasingly under threat from biodiversity loss, pollution, global warming and land degradation, among other challenges.

The GEF NGO Network is a partnership between the GEF and more than 460 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) worldwide. Network members are accredited to the GEF and participate in the consultation process with the GEF's governing body. The GEF NGO Network is organized into 16 regions with one NGO serving as the regional focal point for each and a central focal point which oversees the network.

As informed and effective advocates, NGOs have played a pivotal role in shaping the GEF and its agenda from the very beginning. Today, participation by NGOs, both local and international,

is crucial, not only at the project level but also in GEF policy dimensions. Village organizations and other community-based organizations (CBOs), academic institutions, and foundations are among the NGO partners integral to GEF's efforts.

The first GEF Assembly was held in New Delhi, India, in 1998 and the second in Beijing, China, in October 2002. All GEF Assemblies have had the central goal of creating space for a diversity of voices to be heard, thereby facilitating the exchange of experiences, challenges, successes and dreams and, most importantly, concrete ideas for sustainable development and livelihoods.

In her opening statement, Monique Barbut commented on this being, the first GEF Assembly to be held in Africa during the International Year of Deserts and Desertification (IYDD). Some of the challenges Africa was facing are related to climate, soil fertility, water and biodiversity. She noted that in Africa, 'all development is environment and that all environment is development' – the two being inextricably linked. She highlighted that taking care of the environment in Africa cannot proceed unless the “actors” engage in the long-term development of the continent.

Monique then went on to discuss the implementation of the new Resource Allocation Framework (RAF). She requested that it be viewed in a positive way and that it be made to work for the best and not for the worst. She stated that the RAF is empowering countries in their decisions on how to manage and allocate GEF funds. Cognizant of the concerns of civil society, she insisted that by entering the RAF civil society's participation in projects will not be degraded. She urged the Forum to think of innovative way to advance towards a new type of solution.

Regarding the Small Grants Program (SGP), Monique thanked UNPD for its participation and noted that to date it has been very successful. Although Monique did indicate that this should evolve and that thought should be given as to how countries and NGOs in those countries that have benefited can step out to allow other countries in. She then asked how it would be possible to link up with the private sector. She explored the possibility that NGOs can contribute to project design and evaluation.

In closing, Monique articulated that she was looking forward to the active participation of civil society, and that doors will remain wide open and called on participants to work for innovative solutions, engagement with the private sector and to viewing the RAF as empowering for countries.

WORKSHOP OPENING SESSION

FORUM MODERATOR – AMBASSADOR REX HOROI: THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE FOUNDATION OF THE PEOPLES OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL (FSPI) AND THE REGIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR PACIFIC ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES.

The FSPI Network is an independent group of like-minded NGOs who work at the grassroots level in ten Pacific Island Countries. In addition, FSPI has two metropolitan partners: Australian Foundation of the Peoples of Asia and the Pacific (AFAP), and Counterpart International, (CPI) USA, who offer a range of project services that extend beyond the Pacific.

The community work undertaken by FSPI affiliates varies from country to country and from sector to sector. Community development remains the core business of our network, which includes various types of awareness programs and advocacy work. As a network, FSPI is committed to maintaining stability, building peace and reducing poverty throughout the region.

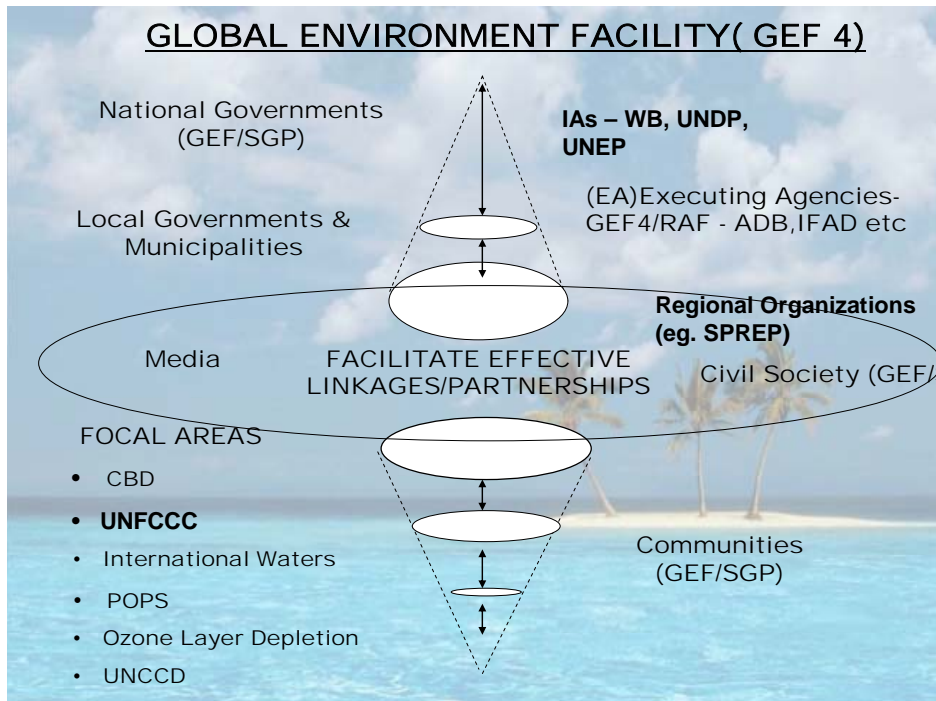
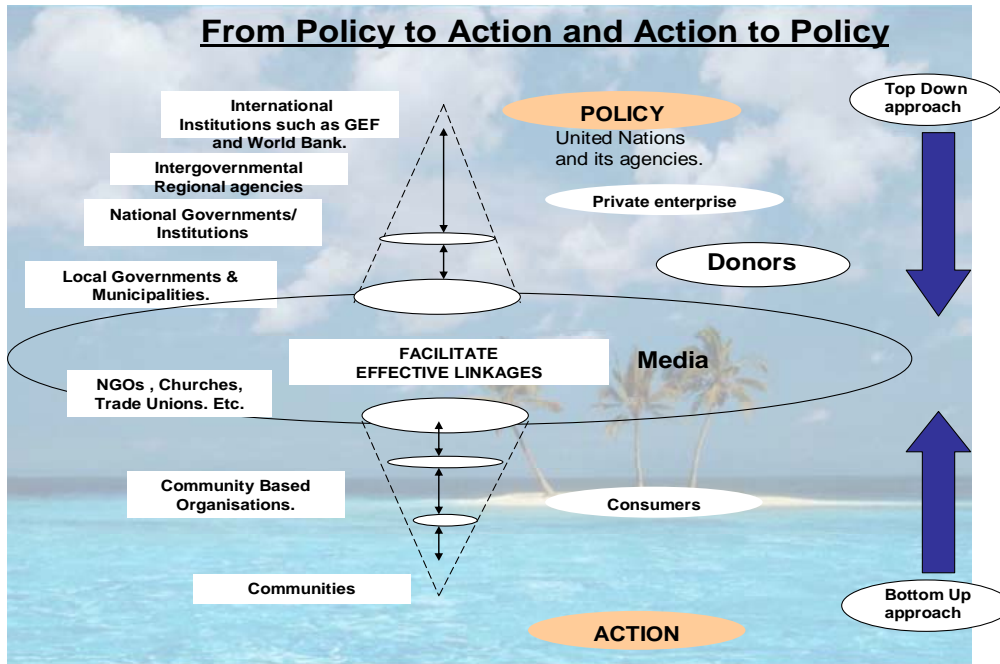
FSPI is now the largest, most experienced secular civil society network in the Pacific with affiliates in Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Palau and East Timor, Australia and the United States.

As the Secretariat for the FSPI network, the focus of all of our work is encapsulated in the following vision “Together we build communities in the Pacific” and mission statement “We work with Pacific communities through people-centered programs to foster self-reliance within a changing world”.

This mission statement is translated into action on the ground through the work of our country affiliates and community partners.

The focus of our work at national and regional level is the local community. The overarching aim is to encourage community members to take responsibility for their own development. This involves assisting them identify self-determined priorities and goals and to assert their right to influence and access public services and decision-making processes.

Forum Moderator, Ambassador Rex Horoi underscored the need for constructive dialogue between policy-makers and civil society. He pointed out that active participation of NGOs and civil society in policy design and implementation is therefore not only an added value to the process of decision making but key to sustainable development. He then made a visual presentation demonstrating the expected outcomes of this Forum using the **Rex Horoi Two Ice-Cream Cone Paradigm to community development.**



Making Policy a Reality from the Ground Up

- Civil society participation in the implementation of GEF projects and its involvement at the Council level reflects a positive step in the right direction in building trust and confidence between NGOs and governments around the world.
- The top-down decision-making process can now be matched with the bottom-up approach of decision-making thus turning policy into reality.
- This will mean constructive dialogue and meaningful engagement of civil society with governments at all levels of society.
- Policy formulation and implementation therefore should become a joint operation between governments and civil society to ensure the appropriate impacts are made at community/grassroots level, e.g. Samoan experience (P&P-Governance).
- This is a rare opportunity for GEF to demonstrate the needed connectivity to communities at grassroots level that it can be achieved through brokering active engagement of governments, NGOs and other non-state actors in policy design and implementation.

Goal of the NGO Forum

The goal of this Forum “Turning Policy into Reality : From the Ground Up” is to raise awareness of global environmental issues which have a negative impact on sustainable livelihoods, and poverty eradication and to stimulate a fruitful and focused dialogue and exchange amongst participants with a view to achieving the following :

OBJECTIVES

- Providing an opportunity for NGOs, Indigenous Peoples groups and rural and urban communities to participate and contribute their knowledge and expertise to discussions on the global environment, sustainable livelihoods, and poverty eradication.
- Bringing to the attention of governments and regional organisations, the capacity and contributions of these groups to address global environmental challenges and offering recommendations on how best to incorporate their perspectives into policies and strategies that make a difference at the local level.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

It is expected that the Forum will yield the following:

- Active and rich dialogue, sharing of ideas, knowledge and experience
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- Identification of areas for collaboration and partnership between NGOs and other stakeholders
- Visibility of global environmental challenges and solutions
- Better understanding by governments of the mutual benefits that can be achieved by working together with civil society and NGOs.

Turning policy into action from the ground up – Rex Horoi stated that the day’s proceedings would be recorded, a summary of which would be published as a joint statement – rolling text as part of the process.

From policy to action and from action to policy – Rex emphasized the need for those on the ground to see what is taking place at policy level and for those who are policy-centric to understand the issues on the ground. He believed that if you are working at different levels there is a need to connect with all other levels. He further stressed the need for international policy to be driven by local needs.

Rex then asked if the GEF is engaging with global issues at the local level, and if so what the linkages with local communities are? He added that the GEF is the first international agreement which recognizes civil society and NGOs through the Small Grants Program. He declared that his aim is to ensure that GEF funding reaches those to whom it was intended for and that those at community level are engaged in policy making. He confirmed that interaction is a reflective process between government and civil society. Inclusion of the media as an essential component of achieving civil society's goals was imperative as well as altering the mindset of the donor community. A need to revolutionize the donor community's thinking regarding the ability of civil society to adequately engage with local communities was also necessary. Finally, creating an atmosphere of trust (may agree to disagree) among all players was very important.

IMPACT OF LAND DEGRADATION ON PEOPLE'S LIVELIHOODS AND THE ENVIRONMENT – STRATEGIES FOR SLM

Background:

The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) promotes a new, fresh approach to managing dry land ecosystems and – just as importantly – to managing development aid flows. As part of the solution to the problem of desertification, a Global Mechanism (GM) was established with a mandate “to promote actions leading to the mobilization of substantial financial resources, including for the transfer of technology, on a grant basis, and/or on concessional or other terms to affected developing country parties”. In response to the multi-sectoral dimensions of the UNCCD, the GM acts as a catalyst to mobilize resources from multi-channel financing sources. It also acts as an honest broker, seeking to match demand and supply. In the process, it adds value through exploring innovative approaches to mobilizing new and additional resources and promotes efficient utilization of scarce domestic and external resources.

No long-term poverty eradication strategy can succeed in the face of human and environmental forces that promote persistent erosion of the physical resources upon which poor people depend. The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in September 2002 reaffirmed land degradation as one of the major global environment and sustainable development challenges of the 21st century, calling for action to “...address causes of desertification and land degradation in order to restore land, and to address poverty resulting from land degradation”. The summit also emphasized that “sustainable forest management of both natural and planted forest and for

timber and non-timber products is essential to achieving sustainable development and is a critical means to eradicate poverty". Yet, every year about 1.2 million hectares of forest land in tropical countries are cut down and converted to other uses. Addressing land degradation would, therefore, contribute significantly to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) of reducing by half the proportion of people living in poverty by 2015 (Goal 1) and ensuring environmental sustainability (Goal 7). But it is a fact that no program for protecting the environment can succeed without alleviating the day-to-day pressures of poverty.

This session focused on the following key questions:

Institutional

- Is the Global Funding Mechanism delivering? Or, more importantly, is it the right institution for global resource mobilization? And finally, how is this mechanism delivering at regional and national level?

Role of Civil Society

- How can civil society, CBOs and NGOs circumvent the continuing human and environmental impact of degradation of dry lands on the millions of desperate people facing hunger and despair?
- How can civil society, CBOs and NGOs better understand the policy and institutional barriers and facilitate the refinement and adoption of innovative sustainable land management and use practices?

The Gender Dimension

- What strategies should be introduced to harness and safeguard the knowledge and resourcefulness of local women in addressing land degradation issues?

Policy and Response Mechanisms

- What remedial processes/strategies can be put in place through public education and policy dialogue?
- How can civil society, CBOs and NGOs introduce policies, regulations, and incentive structures such as improved land tenure systems and pricing systems to appropriately value renewable natural resources, including water, and encourage efficient and sustainable use and management of natural resources?
- How can land degradation be holistically mainstreamed in National Development Strategies?

MODERATOR FOR SESSION 1 – RAJEN AWOTAR: EXECUTIVE CHAIR OF THE MAURITIUS COUNCIL FOR DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND CONSERVATION (MAUDESCO) AND THE REGIONAL FOCAL POINT (RFP) FOR EASTERN AFRICA OF THE GEF NGO NETWORK.

Mauritius Council for Development, Environmental Studies and Conservation (MAUDESCO) is a national environment and development NGO that was set up in 1985 to promote environmental protection, sustainable development, conservation, etc. Maudesco has a pyramidal se up. It has grass roots membership as well as regional and national membership.

Membership to Maudesco is open to grass roots groups, women, students, teachers, youths and regional village council and municipal councilors. Maudesco currently has a membership of over 200 representing the various stakeholders mentioned.

Maudesco promotes its objectives through talks, seminars, workshops, publications, research, lobbying, etc. Maudesco is the Mauritian chapter of the Friends of the Earth International, the Society for International Development, the regional coordinator of the Southern African Regional Climate Action Network (SARCAN), GEF NGO Network RFP, and East Africa Region and Earth Charter Initiative.

Maudesco believes no amount of international meetings, conferences will solve in a sustainable manner the problem of environment, poverty, etc, unless the various stakeholders, populations are sensitized about the issues, the implications and the individual responsibilities of each of us. There is no substitute for this. Hence Maudesco has as a priority activity awareness raising and capacity building for the various stakeholders.

In his introductory remarks, the moderator, Rajen Awotar, highlighted the following with regards to the challenges of Land Degradation and Desertification:

“Environmental and Land Degradation, Desertification vs. Reclamation”

The WSSD held in South Africa, 2002, reaffirmed that land degradation was one of the major global environment and sustainable development challenges of the 21st century. It was highlighted that no long-term poverty eradication strategy can succeed in the face of human and environmental forces that promote persistent erosion of physical resources upon which the poor people depend on.

Every year 25 billion tones of topsoil are lost to the world despite the knowledge that only 12% of the earth’s surface, with the right conditions and enough fertile topsoil, is available to feed the growing world population.

Over 100 countries in arid regions, i.e. 3.6 billion ha over the globe, are especially at risk to desertification and land degradation. This means that over 40% of the world’s populations are affected. Africa, as a region, is the most affected and at perpetual risk. Among the main causes of desertification are climate change, human activities and deforestation.

2006 has been designated by the UN as the International Year of Deserts and Desertification. It is good to remind ourselves that the UNCCD came into force in 1996. So much water has flown under the bridge since then. However, it is unfortunate that to date very few positive actions have been taken at the international level. Under the said Convention, each country affected by desertification and land degradation agreed to develop and implement a National Action Plan (NAP). One unique aspect of the Convention is that it requires each government to fully involve the people most affected, particularly women, youth, farmers, NGOs, CBOs, etc in designing and implementing the NAP. However, countries that are not themselves in danger of desertification are committed to make substantial resources available to combat desertification where it does exist. Today the Convention remains one of the most under-funded of the Rio Conventions.

Two years ago the GEF signed a MoU with the UNCCD Secretariat whereby the GEF will become a financial mechanism of the Convention. Accordingly, the GEF Council agreed to provide financial assistance for land degradation. Land degradation provides a holistic approach to the issue of desertification.

Rajen outlined the session's focus as follows:

- a) Institutional aspects, i.e. the Global Mechanism of the Convention which concerns the mobilization of financial resources for the Convention. The question is whether the mechanism is delivering and are we happy with it?
- b) The role of CBOs, civil society, farmers, women, youth, pastoralists, etc. How can these groups and other stakeholders better understand the complicated policy issues, the institutional barriers and ultimately beat the system? How can they become an active partner at all levels?
- c) How can civil society assist affected populations, the poor and propagate SLM practices?
- d) What strategy should be put in place to harness and safeguard the resourcefulness of local populations in addressing land degradation, poverty and desertification?
- e) How can civil society, women groups, etc. influence land tenure, pricing policies and regulations taking into consideration natural resources such as water, etc?
- f) What policies and strategies need to be introduced as regards public awareness, capacity building, education, etc?
- g) Finally, how can land degradation be mainstreamed into National Development Strategies?

Rajen then introduced Fatima Jibrell, winner of the prestigious *Goldman Environmental Award* as the session presenter. Also introduced were the discussants: Khadija Razavi, Executive Director of The Center for Sustainable Development & Environment (CENESTA) of Iran, Noel Oettlé of the Environment Monitoring Group (EMG) of South Africa, Dr Jonathan Davies of IUCN Nairobi Office, and Hubertus Samangun, the representative of the Indigenous Peoples Network. Khadija is also the RFP for the East- Asia Region and a very active member of RIOD.

PRESENTER -FATIMA JIBRELL: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE HORN OF AFRICA AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (HORN RELIEF) AND WINNER OF 2002 GOLDMAN ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD

Horn Relief is an African-led international development and humanitarian organization. We aim to improve the conditions of those who are living in marginalized areas in the Horn of Africa. We strengthen rural livelihoods through environmental, training, technology transfer and innovative humanitarian projects in pursuit of a peaceful, self-reliant, and greener future. Horn Relief is dedicated to creating sustainable peace and development in Somalia through grassroots capacity building, developing youth leadership, empowerment of women, and protection of the environment. Horn Relief promotes lasting change in Somalia by assisting Somali communities to define and meet their own developmental needs. Horn Relief operates under the mandate that access to resources, political decision-making, and education should be open to all Somalis. It is our fundamental belief that peace and development in Somalia has to be determined and led by Somalis.

Fatima Jibrell's presentation was on combating desertification in the Horn of Africa. She highlighted the impacts of charcoal production and extent of desertification in Somalia; low international awareness about drought and pastoralism in Somalia and the impacts of the international arms trade on the Somali people.

To illustrate the severity of the situation, Fatima used a four-minute documentary entitled The Somalia Case - Rural Way of Life and Desertification. The case study demonstrated the extent of drought in her country and how deforestation and charcoal making are daily worsening the situation. The charcoal produced is mainly exported to Dubai and Turkey. In Somalia, a family requires at least four bags of charcoal a month, which is equivalent to one large tree, which takes approximately 50 years to grow. In December 2004, after the Tsunami, solar cookers were introduced. These solar cookers not only but are environment friendly as no smoke is produced and no charcoal is required. The world's first solar cooking village was subsequently established at Bender Bayla. Further information is available from: sunfirecooking@yahoo.com

Somalia is a largely pastoralist country, raising animals that graze on the land. From 1940 changes in the mode of transport especially the move from camels to cars/trucks in a country that has no road network, further exacerbated the problem of desertification. Trucks including those carrying livestock for export moved everywhere without understanding the consequences to the fragile ground.

Ensuing droughts depleted the country's livestock, the country's economy became largely dependent on charcoal production meaning that all trees are being used for charcoal production. Some of the trees are more than 500 years old and are being sold for pennies – this is the livelihood of people. In the south, the last drought killed 15% of the country's livestock and in the north, people are pastoralists and know no other way of life. GEF needs to consider grants. The 50 year civil war has also greatly contributed to land degradation and desertification. Young pastoralists joining the civil war have left their land unattended. Although Somalia does not have an arms industry, almost every man has a gun.

Somalia today is an invisible country on the world map. Somalia does not participate in the GEF and is not represented at the United Nations (UN) because it has not had a government for the past 15 years. There is low international awareness regarding droughts and pastoralism in Somalia, and the impacts of the International Arms Trade on the Somali people. People in Somalia mostly survive on livestock activities. Somalia has lost most of its forests, biodiversity and green cover. Women and children's health are seriously affected due to charcoal burning. Somalia is fast moving from a fragile environment to a real desert. If we can do something about it – let's influence the Council – powerful GEF decision makers. Somalia needs funding from the GEF and the Small Grants Program.

DISCUSSANTS:

KHADIJA RAZAVI: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (CENESTA) AND THE REGIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR WESTERN ASIA

The Centre for Sustainable Development (CENESTA) is a non-governmental, non-profit organization dedicated to promoting sustainable community- and culture-based development. Its main area of work is Iran and Southwest Asia. CENESTA experts have also engaged in extensive activities in Africa, Latin America, Asia, and in the international arena in general. CENESTA is a member of IUCN—the World Conservation Union and is host to the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy. It is also Secretariat for the World Alliance of Mobile Indigenous Peoples. CENESTA is an accredited organisation with GEF and UNCCD.

CENESTA works with a variety of partners, from local communities in Iran and other countries to local and national governmental agencies, from universities and research organizations to national and international NGOs. The international bodies with which CENESTA and its experts entertain on-going collaboration include UNDP, FAO, UNICEF, UNDP/DDC, IFAD, European Union, IIED, IUCN, UNCCD and the UN Secretariat.

Khadija Razavi highlighted issues that the GEF Assembly should consider, increasing the profile of men in the gender agenda, strengthening the role of the community and the family and allocating more resources at the local level and accountability of the private sector.

Khadija stressed the grossly under-funded state of the Convention and appealed for international solidarity. The Convention is the poorest of the UN family. There is a need for more public awareness including by politicians. Private sector involvement needs to take into consideration resource management, adequate environmental impact assessments and having in place strong policy and response mechanisms. The social and environmental responsibility of the private sector should be subject to socially elaborated codes of conduct without respect to which the private sector operator should lose its legitimacy as a social actor. And community-driven priorities are as important as country-driven priorities as well as the gender issue.

She pointed out the issue of cash crops for exports at the detriment of local food needs. Land degradation is an important issue to the world, most particularly to the donor and rich countries. There is no lack of food for these populations; the issue is essentially a question of equitable distribution. Land degradation is the principal cause of poverty. Countries affected by land degradation need to rethink their national development priorities and there is a need to stress grassroots level activities and targeted assistance to those in need. MDGs, poverty alleviation and sustainable land management need to be reorganized at local, national and global levels. Instead of emphasising implementing full size GEF projects, there is instead a need for implementation of small and expedited medium-size projects. A number of questions can be posed to governments and policy makers particularly in the rich countries:

- Are we really looking for the solutions and elucidation of the impacts of land degradation?
- Are we really ready to accept the reality behind this phenomenon?
- Are we really ready to resolve the root causes of these problems?

If so, we can examine the crisis on two levels:

- Local and national
- Global and international.

The following table gives some examples to get the process moving:

At the Local/National Level
Achieving good governance
Assessing the Impact of globalization on the life of traditional and local communities and small farmers
Ensuring equitable food distribution and healthy food for all, free of external chemicals and altered genetic material.
With export crops (like bananas and cotton) lands are degraded. For very little of this kind of plantation benefit gets to the local people. The benefit ends up most of the time with the plantation owners and what reaches the state often ends up in the pockets of the armament manufacturers. Why don't we decide to transfer the production of raw agricultural crops like these to the northern developed countries for a period of time of say 20 or 30 years. We can let the lands of the countries of the south rest in fallow or in more useful crops for the same length of time unless they reach the Millennium Development Goals for poverty alleviation and rehabilitation of degraded lands. Most of these export crops use a lot of water and degrade the land.
Transforming all state owned lands back to community and common property land tenure systems.
Rethinking the national budget and decreasing the budget of armament and increasing the budget for natural resources management
Minimisation of state conservation activities and restitution of most of the lands under state control to indigenous peoples and working out arrangements for community conserved areas and co-managed protected areas.
Rethinking mobile pastoralist as custodians of rangelands and arid zones and livelihood systems that demand little unsustainable pressure on marginal lands.
Policy dialogue can be effective when local community-driven priorities are taken into account. These priorities need to be institutionalized at the same level as country-driven priorities. It is not enough to merely consult Civil Society. That is, in addition to country-driven priorities for GEF projects, we have to take into serious consideration local community driven priorities as well if we are looking for the sustainable implementation of the projects at local and global levels. Real involvement of local communities in the process of management of natural resources at all levels from inception to planning, decision-making, implementation and finally participatory monitoring and evaluation and policy making is essential.
Before involving the private sector a strong EIA and Social Impact Assessment are needed, as well as a code of ethics and strong social control mechanisms to regulate the behaviour of the private sector. This is especially important when the private sector is working at the expense of indigenous peoples and local traditional communities.

<p>First the local and national level should be strong enough if we are to be strong at the global level</p> <p>Local communities and national decision makers should be strong and have the capacity to understand global issues in relation to sustainable conservation and management of natural resources if we are looking for effective implementation of GEF projects.</p>
<p>For CCD we should de-emphasise the regular medium size and full size GEF projects and emphasize SGPs and expedited medium sized projects.</p>
<p>Rethinking the “New Economic Order”. Sometimes donor countries play a paternalistic role of “Patronage” and “Grand Masters” helping and forgiving the external debts of poor countries. We never raise the issue that the same donor countries need badly the natural resources of the poor countries for their balance of payments. If as a pilot experience the developing countries should decide to withhold raw materials supply to developed countries for just one year, would something very unpleasant not happen? Such realisations might help us to rethink the new balances of power and economic relations needed for sustainable development and poverty alleviation.</p>

<p>At the Global/International Level</p>
<p>Abolition of corruption at all levels of the state</p>
<p>Globalisation is a barrier to Food security</p>
<p>Globalisation is a barrier to Food sovereignty</p>
<p>The debt of the developing countries should be simply abolished if we are ever to have real hopes for poverty alleviation</p>
<p>Collaborative management for conservation of natural resource and international recognition of Community Conserved Areas</p>
<p>Rethinking the rehabilitation of the customary institutions for resource management as common property and common pool resources</p>
<p>Rehabilitation of local community based land tenure management and access to land by local communities instead of state or the private sector. The tendency to privatise all land is a part of the trap that impoverishes many communities.</p>
<p>Preservation of biodiversity through natural and organic products, without the use of synthetic organic pesticides and chemical fertilisers. Likewise, global endorsement of the Moratorium on GMOs which is the policy of IUCN—the World Conservation Union—who have declared a moratorium on GMOs until such time as their impact on biosafety and human health can be ascertained beyond any reasonable doubt.</p>
<p>Government should give more opportunities and allocate more resources to endogenous development and biocultural diversity at the level of indigenous peoples and traditional communities, based on their own capacity to manage using customary institutions.</p>
<p>The UN Convention for Combating Desertification seems to be forgotten and has become the “poor cousin” among its sister conventions. This Convention, perhaps more than most, is the basis for reaching the MDGs, poverty alleviation, and sustainable land management.</p>

Big multinational profits on export crops come while using the best land of the poor everywhere in the world. Are these profits domesticated back to them? And if not, why then blame the poor for land degradation?

As an example: every year about 1.2 million hectares of forestland in tropical countries are cut down and converted to other uses. What percentage benefits the local communities, the real owners and custodians of the natural resource? This is what we should rethink in terms of a new economic order to institutionalize the involvement of local communities in the process of decision-making and in sharing the production and management of their natural resources.

The GEF Public Involvement Policy commits it to ensuring strong involvement of public and civil society groups including indigenous peoples, youth, women, public sector, CBOs and NGOs in the process of GEF projects. This process needs tools, institutionalization and legal support. As long as country-driven priorities are the basis of GEF projects, we cannot really talk of a participatory approach and sustainability of the implementation of the projects. Above, we have suggested some elements for a new approach.

HUBERTUS SAMANGUN: REPRESENTATIVE, INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S NETWORK

International Alliance of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples of Tropical Forests

The Alliance: The International Alliance of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forests is a worldwide network of organizations representing Indigenous and tribal peoples living in tropical forest regions (Africa, the Asia-Pacific and the Americas). The Alliance was founded in 1992 during an indigenous conference in Malaysia, where the Charter of the Alliance was adopted, and has been fighting continuously for the rights of indigenous and tribal peoples ever since.

The Alliance has a flexible structure of nine autonomous regions coordinated and supported by a Technical Secretariat. The membership of the Alliance, made up of indigenous and tribal people's organizations in regional networks, is the highest policy-making body in the network. Policy is formulated through the Alliance's international conferences, which have been held every two to three years since the establishment of the Alliance in 1992. The most recent was in Nairobi, Kenya, in November 2002.

Between these assemblies, the Alliance is coordinated by an International Coordinating Committee (ICC), which meets at least twice a year to monitor the work of the Alliance. The Committee is constituted of nine Regional Coordinators. Supported by a Regional Secretariat and the International Technical Secretariat, each Regional Coordinator represents one of the nine regions falling within the Alliance's remit. The International Alliance is currently implementing a medium size project called "Indigenous Peoples Network for Change" funded by GEF and UNEP with co-funding from Norad and Novib (Oxfam Netherlands). The project seeks to raise Indigenous Peoples awareness of and involve in, the international processes; it is expected to archive the tasks by clarifying and disseminating information, provide training and capacity building in relevant issues, supporting active participation at the local, national, regional, international levels and finally nurturing partnership with existing initiatives and organizations.

Hubertus Samangun expressed the hope that Indigenous Peoples issues would be a focus for the Third GEF Assembly and was optimistic that the Indigenous Peoples would play an active part in the GEF NGO Network in the future especially after their long struggle to become a part of the Network.

Hubertus highlighted the struggle of Indigenous Peoples on the issue of land rights. No other groups are more directly affected by land degradation than the indigenous groups. Indigenous Peoples view with concern loss of biodiversity. He stated that there is a need to take into account the specific demands of the Indigenous Peoples and appealed for inclusiveness. Indigenous Peoples needed the support of the Small Grants Program of the GEF. Hubertus said that Indigenous peoples have had a long struggle in making themselves visible, especially in the world of conservation. It is a high time that they are taken as partners for the future protection of our natural resources.

DR JONATHAN DAVIES: GLOBAL COORDINATOR OF THE WORLD INITIATIVE FOR SUSTAINABLE PASTORALISM (WISP)

The World Initiative for Sustainable Pastoralism (WISP) is a global initiative that supports the empowerment of pastoralists to sustainably manage dry lands resources. WISP enables pastoralists to demonstrate that their land use and production system is an effective and efficient way of harnessing the natural resources of the world's dry lands.

Pastoralist communities are often socially and politically marginalized. Their livelihoods are undermined by inappropriate policies and laws and by pressures on their resources from more politically powerful neighbors and other competitors. WISP therefore works to empower pastoralists and pastoral institutions by enabling them to gather knowledge and influence policies that impinge on their livelihoods and their ability to sustainably manage their land and natural resources.

WISP provides the social, economic and environmental arguments for pastoralism to improve perceptions of pastoralism as a viable and sustainable resource management system. WISP also advocates for an enabling environment for sustainable rangeland management, improved pastoral livelihoods and pastoral empowerment.

Jonathan Davies emphasized the need to take a broad view of the causes of desertification, noting that positive environmental outcomes might follow from upholding mobility, protecting the rights of pastoralists and enabling customary institutions.

He stated that desertification is a global phenomenon. He also emphasized that although degradation of dry lands where pastoralists live is common, it is not synonymous with pastoralism. The right to security is one of the most basic of human rights. Conflict is exacerbated by the weakening of customary institutions whose solution lay in curtailing the mobility rights of pastoralists and the enabling of customary institutions. It becomes essential for the sustainable management of dry lands. An overriding feature of dry lands is a non-equilibrium state. The right to security is not satisfied in dry lands, he noted. Where security fails, the result was under-grazing or over-grazing. A recent publication on Eastern African pastoralism displayed this link between customary institutional and environment degradation. Somalia provided a good case study, he said but emphasized that it is not peculiar to any one country or region and that the solutions are relevant to all.

Jonathan emphasized the need to take a wider and deeper view into the root causes of desertification, noting that when mobility and customary institutions are protected or enabled land degradation tends to be reduced.

NOEL MAXWELL OETTLÉ: RURAL PROGRAMME MANAGER OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING GROUP (EMG)

EMG is a not-for-profit NGO based in Cape Town, South Africa. Through its work, EMG hopes to encourage the development of environmental policies and practices that address environmental injustice and promote sustainable development focusing on relationships – between individuals, groups and government – particularly where these relationships impact the natural environment when they become dysfunctional or imbalanced.

Noel Oettlé emphasized the necessity for creativity and for taking into account local knowledge when addressing sustainable land use and land degradation issues. He cautioned against the speedy implementation of new technologies before their environmental impacts are fully understood.

Noel mentioned the role of civil society with regard to land degradation and desertification and reemphasized the need for creativity on behalf of all affected by the phenomena. He suggested that in the absence of adequate attention to crucial environmental issues there was need for innovative approaches, to learn from experiences of others and from different regions. Most importantly, we must of necessity learn from the people, pastoralists, small farmers and desert dwellers and other affected communities. Local activism and people's knowledge should also be harnessed.

New technologies should be developed with the full participation of affected communities. Such technologies should be affordable to all. Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) and their negative effects on biodiversity need to be taken into consideration when dealing with new crop varieties. Empowerment of local people is necessary. In addition, partnership based on the principle of trust needs to be developed. Noel called attention to NGOs to bring people together and to catalyze their vision.

Questions and Discussion

Participants discussed, inter alia: RAF-related challenges – the need for participation of all stakeholders in GEF-funded programmes and the global nature of desertification.

Question: One participant sought clarification on challenges that might be faced in relation to the RAF.

Answer: Noel Oettlé explained that the winners have been those countries that can demonstrate good governance, effective use of GEF funds in the past and those that can demonstrate that they have global environmental benefits to offer.

Question: Environmentalism Centre International asked the following -

- GEF seems to want to concentrate on funding national governments and in keeping NGOs at policy rather than implementation level.
- Regarding charcoal burning as a symptom reflecting the lack of attention of governments, are we really preventing land degradation? Should we not be focusing on the end users to bring down the demand for charcoal? Should we not be promoting good governance?
- Is there a stipulation in GEF's funding mechanism to ensure full participation of all groups?

Question: Hungary - the RAF has not been answered completely. Is it in the interests of the GEF secretariat, governments and agencies to get the money out of the banks for the implementation period?

Question: Senegal - Desertification is a growing problem yet the UN Convention on Deserts and Desertification reached in Rio is the only convention that does not have a budget line. Are we preaching in the wilderness? Once you accept that desertification is known across the globe, why do we not accept that it is a global phenomenon?

Participants then discussed the challenges faced in relation to the RAF, for example - the need to include the full participation of all stakeholders in GEF-funded programmes, the contribution of rich countries to land degradation problems and the global nature of the problem of desertification. It was stated that when NGOs carry out projects for the GEF they are not just viewed as recipients but as partners because they contribute resources in kind thereby qualifying

them as key stakeholders/partners of the GEF and that many of these local projects have links to the GEF and global environmental problems.

In conclusion, Noel Oettlé underlined that the GEF Small Grants Program (SGP) has both an environmental and a poverty focus and that it is a very powerful vehicle. He also pointed out that there have been windows for accessing GEF funding for desertification-related projects.

THE CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY CHALLENGE

Global warming and climate change rank amongst or possibly is the greatest global challenges of the 21st century. Climate change is one emerging issue with the greatest capacity to severely impact the lives and livelihoods, as well as the structures, both physical and institutional. Climate change has been largely found to be due to the increasing burning of fossil fuels and subsequent emission of greenhouse gases (GHGs). These emissions have been increasing exponentially over the last two centuries largely due to human-driven economic activities and demographic growth.

The challenges are huge. In some ways, however, the diagnosis is straightforward. We must rapidly reduce energy use and develop alternatives to fossil fuels, which can be used by all the people of the world. We must stop (and reverse) the destruction of the world's forests. We must stabilize world population. Most environmental degradation affects a specific place, no matter how big or small. Global climate change, on the other hand, affects the whole planet, and for a long time. If there is a single piece of work for our generation, it lies here. The impact on the environment and on people is quite significant. It is important to raise awareness of this issue and mobilize countries to develop and disseminate knowledge about mitigation, vulnerability and adaptation.

The “building block” for any discussion of adaptation is the underlying knowledge bases, developed through climate science, understanding of traditional knowledge (e.g., indigenous response measures), and vulnerability and adaptation assessments (V&As). In addition, once the information is available, adaptation interventions must be implemented and integrated into development plans and actions. The new climate change funds, managed by the GEF, were established to reduce vulnerability, increase the adaptive capacity of developing countries to the adverse impacts of climate change.

This presentation addressed the following critical questions:

Knowledge Management and Networking

- How can civil society, CBOs, NGOs and Indigenous Peoples identify and systematize the existing information and scientific and indigenous knowledge, as well as identify gaps – both of a scientific and policy nature – regarding vulnerabilities and adaptation to climate change?
- How can civil society, CBOs, NGOs and Indigenous Peoples develop networks of research centers, universities, and the private sector and key actors in communities, which are likely to be especially vulnerable to climate change?

Improving Models for Response

- How can civil society, CBOs, NGOs and Indigenous peoples explore ways to mobilize more funding for vulnerability and adaptation (V&A) assessments and development of a consistent methodology and response mechanism?

- What role can civil society, CBOs, NGOs and Indigenous peoples play in sharing information and contributing to development, up scaling and replicating good practices to address climate change and adaptation?
- How do we move from preparation to implementation or from words to action?
- How do we effectively integrate adaptation measures into development?

Energy is the lifeblood of the global economy. It affects all aspects of development – social, economic and environment – livelihoods, access to water, agricultural productivity, health, population levels, education and gender-related issues. Unfortunately, energy is a limited resource. An estimated 2 billion people do not have access to electricity and must rely on wood fuel. This begs the question of the availability and accessibility of wood fuel, which is already a scarce resource. In turn, this impacts on land use and leads to degradation of the soil. There is an urgent need to expand the supply of energy especially in the developing world and to those who currently lack access to modern sources of energy.

The key words in this respect are Accessibility, Adequacy, Affordability and Sustainability.

The Role of Civil Society

- How can civil society, CBOs, NGOs and Indigenous Peoples improve the efficient supply of energy services, the spread of renewable energy sources and efforts to provide more than 1.6 billion people in the world or 400 million rural households with access to modern energy services – since the poor pay more for – or spend more time trying to secure energy?
- What contributions have or can civil society, CBO, NGOs and Indigenous Peoples make to improve the quality and quantity of energy services in developing countries to meet the MDGs?

Partnership and Capital Options

- How do we find ways to increase private investment in renewable energy and energy efficiency?
- How can civil society, CBOs, NGOs and Indigenous Peoples build rural capital to finance some of this?

MODERATOR FOR SESSION 2 – LESLIE WALLING: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE CARIBBEAN CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION (CCA) AND THE REGIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The CCA exists to enhance the quality of life for present and future generations of the Caribbean by facilitating the development and implementation of policies, program and practices, which contribute to the sustainable management of the region's natural and cultural resources.

This is achieved through a membership that covers the wider Caribbean amongst non-governmental organizations, within government structures and by individuals interested in voicing civil society's concern for the state of the environment in the Caribbean region.

Over the years, CCA has initiated, co-sponsored, endorsed and funded a variety of regional conservation programmes, ranging from an endangered species research and conservation effort directed at the preservation of the Caribbean green turtle, the development of a vibrant outreach program in Environmental Education and the formulation of a regional environmental education

and communications strategy, to the compilation of environmental profiles for five countries within the Eastern Caribbean.

Leslie Walling opened his presentation by observing that over the past 25 years, there has been a growing appreciation at all levels, that sustainable development must be founded on three equal pillars - the Environmental, Development and Social Pillars. However, there is still a long way to go to achieve the goals and objectives based on acceptance and implementation. And while we are still, as a global family, coming to terms with the challenges and implications of transforming an already complex conceptual construct to a living reality we have been “thrown a curve ball” if you are baseball player or, “bowled a googlies” if you are a cricket fan.

The world is now being asked to recognise and respond to the fact that the way that non-renewable energy resources have been used since the Industrial Revolution has effectively mortgaged the futures of generations to come. We are now finding that we are not quite sure what the premium and interest on this investment will be.

Global Climate Change impacts will have truly cross-cutting and multi-sectoral impacts in the areas of: agriculture, tourism, water resources, human settlements, infrastructure, health, land degradation and energy consumption. Global Climate Change will add new levels of vulnerability, risk and uncertainty to the sustainable development equations that we are attempting to craft.

As modest a solution as it may be, the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol must be a truly global priority. But given the uncertainties about plausible climate futures and the modesty of the impacts of mitigation actions, Adaptation Planning and Capacity Building for Adaptation Planning must also be a priority for donor support.

The reality of adaptation and vulnerability assessment is that they are local considerations. The related actions and decisions do exist in a legislative and policy context. But the final implementation reality is that adaptation and vulnerability assessments are about people, human settlements, livelihoods, infrastructure and well-being. For adaptation strategies to be effective they must be developed from the bottom-up, in partnership with governments, implementing agencies and the private sector and civil society. Mitigation is also about individuals and communities either viewed as constituencies or users, consumers and makers of decisions.

The decisions that individuals make regarding energy use, energy options choices and energy efficiency do occur in national and local policy and legislative contexts.

However, since action and implementation for both adaptation and mitigation take place at the local and individual levels, there are potentials for complementary action and mutually supportive adaptation and mitigation solutions that can add value and acceptance to proposed initiatives by creating win-win solutions.

The energy situation in South Africa focuses on equity issues, calculating costs unreasonable for bottom-up projects, immediate implications for sustainable development. The principles of justice imply business as usual in terms of employment and economic costs. But the question we would like to ask is looking at this trade off between broad and social interests what does industry see as beneficial to them?

The answer lies within the interest of social vs. capital, taking into account its generational character. Capital in terms of competitiveness in the global economy could become a disadvantage if perpetuated.

Leslie introduced the first presenter Richard Worthington.

PRESENTERS:

RICHARD WORTHINGTON: PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR OF THE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE PARTNERSHIP (SECCP) - A PROJECT OF EARTHLIFE AFRICA JOHANNESBURG AND WORLD WILDLIFE FUND DENMARK AND CO-COORDINATOR OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK (SACAN).

SECCP aims, through a combination of awareness-raising, research, advocacy and local and international networking, to mobilize civil society for support of a more sustainable energy development path and responsible climate change policies in South and Southern Africa. Earthlife Africa is a voluntary, non-government organization working on environmental and social justice issues at various levels from policy formulation to direct action.

Richard Worthington discussed South Africa’s future energy options. He demonstrated that investing in clean energy reduces the country’s contribution to climate change, is cost effective, creates jobs and reduces poverty.

What are the most important energy services and how are these accessed? There is a high demand for electricity. Industry, domestic and utilities are the biggest users of electricity in the country. Renewable energy should be seen as an alternative, Egypt being the perfect example. There is a need to learn from each other and not reinvent solutions (the wheel). There is also a need to look at nuclear energy as an alternative source of electricity. More coordinated efforts are required to address these issues. 1.6 billion people need to have access to electricity. One way is targeting biomass and its usages as a possible solution.

Richard emphasized that it is essential to examine critically the GEF’s push for partnerships between civil society and the private sector. It was important to recognize that sub-Saharan Africa is not the same as South Africa. What can we do now to achieve what is possible? Richard stated the need to concentrate on the fact that renewable energy will play a role in addressing energy issues. Subsidies are necessary in Africa to assist people in getting access to renewable energy. Every time there is a power failure there are no back up systems. It would also be good to find out how we can meet the energy requirements of rural populations.

Richard believed a just transition to sustainable energy is possible, simultaneously creating employment and reducing poverty, through integrated energy planning and a forward-looking agenda with an energy service approach. He stated that renewable energy will become a cheaper option in time. He concluded by asking, do we continue to put the decision off or do we commit ourselves? By the year 2050 in South Africa, renewable energy could provide over 50% of total energy required and at least 90% of electricity needed. Solar options could be cheaper within 10 years if implementation began now. The salient points of Richard’s presentation are summarized in the table below:

Scale up renewable energy as part of Global Climate Change mitigation	Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions – very energy intensive economy has developed
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through dispelling old myths • Niche applications Advocacy and building awareness and capacity	patterns of thinking.
Essential context: the need to keep warming below 2 degrees C.	Equity issue: preventing dangerous climate change - all sectors of society need to be involved in the efforts.
Engagement of Climate Change must go beyond responding to handouts. Perspectives truly aligned in the ultimate objectives of the GEF	Climate Justice Principles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indigenous • Prior consent • Decision to say no respected Holding transnational corporations accountable

DR EMAD ADLY: CHAIRMAN OF THE ARAB NETWORK FOR ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (RAED)

RAED is a network of Arab non-governmental organizations including more than 200 NGOs from Mauritania, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Sudan, Egypt, Jordan, Palestine, Lebanon, Syria, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman, Saudi Arabia and Yemen.

Among its objectives are: To coordinate between regional community organizations in the exchange of skills, experience and information; To create new grassroots activities to be implemented by RAED NGO members; To encourage the inclusion of community participation projects in government programs to achieve sustainable development; and To gather, disseminate and exchange regional and international data on different environmental and development problems.

Emad Adly described lessons learned from Egypt’s experience of the GEF Small Grants Program (SGP). He noted the importance of dialogue between policymakers and grassroots organizations, localized “win-win” approaches to global issues, capacity building and private sector engagement as some of the ingredients for success.

He was positive that in order to achieve the MDGs, real partnerships are required that enable discussion and decision-making regarding communities.

Regarding the Small Grants Program (SGP) in Egypt, it was observed that it is crucial provide for the social and economic problems, to link implementation to the survival of people and to bring communities into the process. In attempting to develop renewable energy, models must be developed that can be used by the poor and that are presented in a way that is affordable. A methodology that is based on partnership between NGOs and the private sector must be developed. When the private sector was marketing solar energy it was aimed at the rich, it is essential that they shift towards dealing with the poor as potential customers. Local people cannot grasp global issues as they are just trying to survive. An integrated approach that includes the poor in the process is the most effective. Policy needs to be progressive and not only focus on business as usual. In implementing the Small Grants Program (SGP), it is very difficult to bring civil society together to change policy. The reality is that it is not happening.

Enhancing financial mechanisms using a revolving fund gives ownership of the project to the community, enhancing partnership, sustainability and capacity building. Giving soft loans that

help them to become partners and enable them to benefit from the funds was one way. An ideal situation is at least 50% contribution in cash and 25% in kind. Investing in project elements that could lead to meaningful policy changes was also imperative. As well as establishing reliability, extension of activities for the group, documentation to help the process of developing new ideas was also a prerequisite. Thereafter, clear examples needed to be fed upstream in order to influence. From this develop lessons from which we can learn to develop more projects.

DISCUSSANTS:

SALAH SAHABI: GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE ASSOCIATION POUR LA RECHERCHE SUR LE CLIMAT ET L'ENVIRONNEMENT (ARCE) AND THE REGIONAL FOCAL POINT (RFP) FOR NORTHERN AFRICA

Founded in 1993, Association pour la Recherche sur le Climat et l'Environnement (ARCE) aims to promote research and development in climate and the environment. ARCE's activities include water and sanitation, environmental protection, pollution control, ground water, flood control and river management. Fields of activity include environmental conservation, water and sanitation services

Salah Sahabi stressed the need for: capacity building; engaging the main actors; training negotiators; transferring expertise; fostering networks; equity of finance; looking at the carbon market and renewable energies; promoting development potential; raising consciousness regarding renewable energy.

He elaborated as follows:

- Capacity building was clearly very important;
- Climate Change is not really an issue in international policy;
- Flooding, drought – haven't been properly factored in.

Salah went on to make the following recommendations: involve the main actors, those who are not yet involved, to limit climate impact; to get people involved with training so that we can really train people; beef up our current networks or create new networks to look at questions such as emissions; we need to provide necessary support to various things discussed at national and international level; provide resources to train negotiators. This would make it possible to look at adaptation; transfer of expertise; equity when finance is made available; look at carbon market also; look at the move towards renewable energies; make our populations aware of this, we have to raise their consciousness when it comes to using renewable energy. Since we work in different sectors, we should try to promote our own development potential although the GEF projects are often very successful. This is what we are really trying to do – put policy into action.

Salah stressed the need for building capacity, training negotiators, transferring expertise, fostering networks and raising awareness.

There are GEF projects that are very successful but as we translate policy into action on the ground, capacity building remains crucially important. In addition, there is insufficient integration of Climate Change in national policy so the question remains “How to implicate major shareholders to mitigate Climate Change?” NGOs should reinvigorate and strengthen existing networks; there is urgent need for sharing and providing information on Climate Change on national (ground) level the need to capacitate. Negotiations and engagement in adaptation of vulnerable groups e.g. South Africa has set clear target to go for renewable energy in the coming

15 years. Partnerships between public, private, government and NGOs are vital. GEF SGP seems to be a successful program but this program needs to be expanded to meet the ever increasing needs of communities.

DJIMINGUE NANASTA: PROGRAMME COORDINATOR – CLIMATE CHANGE FOR ENDA TIERS MONDE AND THE REGIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR WESTERN AFRICA

ENDA Tiers Monde is an international non-profit organization founded in 1972. ENDA is based in Dakar and is comprised of autonomous organizations working in various countries in the Global South. The association is active in various domains linked to the environment and development. ENDA seeks to improve the tools of knowledge for local development by identifying and enforcing common initiatives that help development at the grassroots level.

ENDA collaborates with grassroots groups in search of alternative development models on the basis of the experience, expectations and objectives of marginalized peoples.

In general, ENDA works to enhance the visibility and value, in practice as well as theory, of the knowledge and tools that exist in local development efforts. This consists of identifying and supporting community development initiatives especially in terms of local organizations.

ENDA is an organization in constant evolution. This is reflected in the integration of new priorities and in regular organizational restructuring, such as a diversification of teams and entities, for example. As a result there is a constant dynamism between the different areas and levels of ENDA's activity. Transparency and co-ordination between the various teams and entities, both internally and externally, is a priority for the organization's operation so that all efforts reach as many as possible.

Djimingue Nanasta stressed the link between energy and climate security and called for new development paradigms to promote energy efficiency and facilitate adaptation.

Djimingue stressed that coming from sub-Saharan African countries the issues are different to South Africa, a country known to be very energy intensive. He stressed energy and climate are closely linked to poverty. The challenge remains how to meet energy consumption needs to fight poverty and ensure survival. An answer lies in a long term plan to boost development in a sustainable way. What are sustainable energy strategies? How do we ensure climate security and meet huge energy needs?

There is need for a new development paradigm which promotes energy efficiency and facilitates adaptation. Already in existence are projects that develop climate change pathways, arid projects such as a partnership between ENDA and private sector that promotes access to energy services to poor whilst promoting energy efficiency between small and medium enterprises using biomass. The same project caters for dialogue among policy makers at policy level to see how to influence policy. At global level a climate and energy security plan needs to be developed in a holistic way by linking climate and energy. How can these be tackled together? There was also a need to focus on adaptation in sub-Saharan countries. The third option is clean technology and energy saving measures at international level.

He called for concentration on sub-Saharan Africa as it is home to 15 of the poorest countries in the world. These countries have stronger challenges in terms of Climate Change and Energy,

particularly huge energy needs. Surveys and studies indicate that energy and climate are closely linked to poverty. The crucial issue was to increase energy consumption to boost development.

ANNIE SUGRUE: SOUTH AFRICA CO-ORDINATOR FOR THE CITIZENS UNITED FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY (CURES)

The idea of CURES started at the Johannesburg World Summit for Sustainable Development (WSSD) 2002 out of the failure to develop a global action plan to halt climate change. The climate negotiations had also run into difficulties. The focus was on preparing for the WSSD follow-up conference - Renewables 2004 in Bonn. In order to bundle their proposals and to strengthen their position, NGOs from all over the world formed a new network: "Citizens United for Renewable Energies and Sustainability"(C U R E S).

CURES calls for ambitious programs to promote renewable energies because:

- *Urgent measures to progress away from the current fossil energy system are required to stop rapid global warming.*
- *Renewable energies are the only way to give access to modern energy services to the two billion people currently excluded from them.*
- *While most developing countries so far depend on imported fossil fuels, renewable energies open up the opportunity for decentralized energy supply, which are produced locally, creating more employment,*
- *Renewable energy systems are far less prone to corruption and crises than the fossil energy system.*

Annie Sugrue questioned whether GEF grants will provide social and economic justice. She highlighted the disconnect between political and financial will in South Africa for developing renewable energy programmes.

Commenting on Richard's presentation, Annie presented two slides: the one outlining the number of jobs created for terawatt per hour as 70 jobs for nuclear, over 16 000 for biodiesel. This clearly displayed job creation as a very important aspect of renewable energy programs. We all know it is beneficial, but the problem lies in the political will, financial support, requirements and demand. On the topic of political will: South Africa has set a target, 10 000 gwh by 2013, an ambitious target but with little financial support; R2 billion for nuclear, R14.2 million for renewable energy. The fossil fuel industry is subsidized by a 50Kwh basic free electricity grant.

What needs to be explored is energy provision instead of electricity provision. Also as important is the gender issues as those that rely on biomass are mostly women. Additionally, there exists a difference between political will and financial will, how do we feed in the tariff system? Annie then focused on a decentralized system encompassing solar cookers, solar water heaters, and biogas digesters. She pointed to the fact that although people wanted these alternatives there is no financing for them. The centralized energy system is well supported but this support did not extend to renewable energy. Financing for renewable energy for rural poor communities is essential and this needs to be linked to the increasing demand for oil and GDP. They can be no economic growth without energy. Without access to energy people remain poor. Since poverty eradication is at the core of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) these are a joke if energy access is not explicitly considered. Annie also highlighted the importance of the GEF grant system for renewable energy. There are serious concerns about the implementation of RAF and the allocation of GEF funds to government. This raises once again the link between political and financial will. With the Small Grants Program collapsed into RAF it becomes difficult for

NGOs to access finance. Now than ever before there is need for a renewable energy grant system.

Questioning whether GEF grants will provide social and economic justice, Annie highlighted a gap between political and financial will in South Africa for developing renewable energy programmes.

In her concluding remarks Annie lamented the absence of a formal arrangement between SGP and GEF NGO Network and the need for a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to formalize the relationship. At country level, she commented that SGF through National Steering Committees (NSCs) exist but have their limitations, particularly with regard to the volume of replication and up scaling. There is also need to improve on lobbying and advocacy, and the promotion of partnerships with initiatives such as the Global Voice which cater adequately for the integration of social and economic factors. There is need to redefine partnerships without limiting the importance of local NGOs and CBOs from important international NGOs. This is the key to sustainable development.

PROFESSOR KEVIN BENNETT: DIRECTOR OF THE ENERGY RESEARCH CENTRE (ERC)

The Energy Research Centre (ERC) is the result of the logical merger of activities of the Energy Research Institute and the Energy Development Research Centre. Its mission is to be an African-based multi-disciplinary energy research centre which pursues excellence in technology, policy and sustainable development research, education and capacity building programmes at a local and international level. As part of its vision, ERC seeks to become an outstanding organization in the area of energy and cross-cutting themes, to be acknowledged for its performance, capacity, and positive contribution to the development of the community and employees.

Kevin Bennett highlighted the need to address energy transmission losses and to consider the future role of nuclear energy.

In support of this he cited the following;

- Power systems are the biggest users of electricity in any country.
- The distribution losses in the transmission systems all required keeping the power going. This brings up the question: are they being operated efficiently? Transmission losses were as high as 30-40% because of poor operational practices in many developing countries. Thus, a huge potential for energy efficiency – at the domestic sector, for industry etc. We can see that work is being done.
- Regarding the model in Egypt, work is going on everywhere. Why don't we learn from each other? Why do we keep reinventing the wheel? Regarding power generation, I don't think you can ignore nuclear; it is going to make an impact whether we like it or not. We cannot pretend it is not going to happen.
- Regarding the poorer section of the population, do we take a shotgun approach and apply everything or do we target things more? Biomass is going to be the source of energy for years to come. We don't like it, people get sick, but where will the funds come to change that? Even with the MDGs, it appears that the numbers of people without electricity are getting worse. It is worthwhile to target biomass and its efficiency; rather than try many different technologies, i.e. target one or two?

- Senegal presentation highlighted that work is going on everywhere – thereby pointing to the need for coordination to make sure there is efficient replication.

Questions and Discussion

Participants then discussed whether the focus on energy efficiency has been successful; the role of inadequate domestic capacity in hindering access to GEF resources under the RAF; the extent of collaboration with the private sector; and the need for technology transfer modalities.

- One participant queried whether a focus on energy efficiency had solved any problems in the past 20 years.
- Regarding renewables: what would a focus on renewable energy do to our economy?
- Limiting energy use on a global scale – we need to limit this somehow; we might be able to do so but this may create problems elsewhere; limiting ourselves, limiting the growth might be difficult.
- Energy need for economical growth: if you look at economic growth, it always goes with biodiversity decline; will we be able to protect biodiversity at the same time?

The Samoan participant wanted to know why:

- RAF is predominantly for only for biodiversity and climate change.
- RAF now targets countries but what we find, the capacities in our own countries do not allow us to access some of these resources in the next four years.
- SIDS in the pacific – even our regional organizations mandated to prepare us to access these funds have not been in a position to adequately prepare us to access these resources.
- There is a disconnection between adaptation and the CDM.

Another speaker expressed concern that GEF is pushing us to cooperate with the private sector, but we are not profit-driven. Multi-functional platforms do work well – good illustration of how biodiesel is used by different communities. It has been a wonderful success on the ground. In rural populations, they have neither electricity nor water nearby; this has helped them to solve some of their development problems. They can mill their own millet for example and they have enough power to run small engines. This was rushed through when Annie was speaking but this is a huge program and now it's being done elsewhere. We need to look at this. It is important that GEF get out of the straitjacket of looking only at the private sector.

Another speaker was keen to find out what research is being done currently in South Africa? She requested more information on the wind power pilot project and to share concerns on the first question on energy use. We've heard a lot about energy use and new sources but we must also tackle the problem of consumption in Northern countries.

Annie Sugrue's response:

On biodiesel we see it as a very significant and important project for rural people; we have sufficient rainfall. If you use a multifunctional platform you can solve a lot of problems in an integrated way. But I must stress that biofuels, if done the wrong way cease to be a renewable form of energy. It is not a silver bullet and it can be done badly. Also, on energy use: the next 10 years are going to be difficult because of rising energy prices. There will come a time when we will all have to limit our energy.

Energy efficiency is probably the most important issue. My comments on the link between economic growth and energy were to illustrate that we are not helping our rural poor. I am not talking about economic growth at all costs; we are talking about sustainable development and trying to help people get access to energy.

Richard Worthington's response:

I would not address how we can use the GEF Third Assembly to mobilize on these issues as I do not have a sense of what we can do. It will need to involve giving meaning to the talk on technology transfer – we never get a working definition of it. Equitable deployment of technologies available; we have yet to find modalities that get past the whole private sector on this and I agree that we need to resist the GEF pushing us toward the private sector. Scenarios like the ones I showed are not predictions but they are trying to show what is possible. We wanted to look at what could be done with renewables. On wind in South Africa, it is progressing very very slowly, something is happening but not nearly enough.

One more question from floor: no electricity back up systems in rural areas; greater focus on how to meet the requirements of rural populations, including the consistency of energy provision to rural areas.

In summary, the moderator outlined the key issues emerging as: Why don't we learn from each other about why it is happening? A lot of good work was happening around the world that we can learn from but the information is not being shared. There was need for a network. How do we address the need for information and establish the systems?

Floor Comments on the Second Presentation

Leslie Walling commented that the presentation embodies title of the forum. The presentation started by telling us NGOs in Egypt have been visionary with a downstreaming/upstreaming strategy, bringing two streams into one. The support from SGP was critical to success and based on reality and appreciation of the kind of lives people live creating win/win situations. The partnership aspect is interesting, perspectives of private sector, re-adjusting perceptions. There exists synergy to address needs, which effects how projects are implemented locally.

Andras Krolopp commented that we are losing the big picture, we need to be proactive. We need to strive for energy efficiency. The question is how have we have been solving any energy problems over the last 20 years? Renewable energy sources are very promising alternatives, which might promote GDP growth.

Libasse Ba expressed concern that GEF was trying to push NGOs into cooperating with the private sector. He expressed skepticism about this. If this fuel was used to pump water, then it saves women and children from walking several kilometers to collect water.

Pacific intervened that they had heard from CEO of GEF that she has 30 billion funds during the sub-regional meeting in Pacific. RAF is predominantly about biodiversity and Climate Change. RAF now targets countries yet capacities in some of our countries do not qualify us to access funds. Even regional organizations mandated by the GEF are not in a position to adequately prepare countries. How do we align ourselves to capitalize and address the disconnect in terms of RAF mechanism? The problem was in the spirit of engaging to access funds. How does this relate to flat fee?

Uganda stressed the importance of networks and capacity building. This had proved a success when introducing carbon trade in Uganda. Biodiesel was unheard of in Uganda, but would be keen to learn about it and if possible, adopt it.

Mariana Sells pointed out the fact that Brazil was a world leader in biofuels. South Africa on the other hand had a long way to go in the field of biodiesel. What projects or research is being done? She requested more information about wind power project in South Africa with regard to energy used as she had heard a lot about the search for renewable energy sources.

Annie commented that economic growth should come first and economies second. She saw biodiesel as contributing significantly to progress among rural people and as a multifunctional platform, which can solve many problems. On the link between economic growth and energy, Annie was keen to demonstrate that it is not helping the poor as it is not capable of guaranteeing enough commodities for sale to enter into mainstream economy.

Richard moved that civil society use the 3rd GEF Assembly as a catalyst. Somewhere it would be necessary to talk of transfer. The equitable employment of technologies was available but the necessary modalities had not been formed. He was against private sector partnerships entered into on an individual basis. He was however in favor of partnerships that tackle long-term problems. Are we going to continue with pattern of development or can we break the mould? What can we do now?

BIODIVERSITY – MOVING FROM DEBATE TO ACTION?

Biological diversity or biodiversity — the variability of life on Earth — is key to the ability of the biosphere to continue providing us with ecological goods and services and thus is our species' life assurance policy. It also provides genetic resources for food and agriculture, and therefore constitutes the biological basis for world food security and support for human livelihoods. Yet we are wiping out plant and animal species at astonishing rates, primarily through the destruction of habitats. Slowing the rate of habitat loss (and then reversing it) will require political will, scientific research and creativity in planning. It will require that we protect and manage lands effectively, as well as educate private landowners and users about the value of biodiversity. Experts estimate that, at current extinction rates of plants and animals, the Earth is losing one major drug every two years. At the same time, 80 percent of people in developing countries rely on medicines derived largely from plants and animals.

In a world of increasing globalization and environmental degradation, management of its most precious natural and living resource such as biological diversity is among the most important and critical challenge facing the world and especially humankind today.

This session will focused on the following questions:

Access and Benefit Sharing

- How do we operationalize expert groups that have been set up on issues of access and benefit sharing and the role of Indigenous People and local communities at national and sub-regional levels to look at the issue of genetic resource sharing by giving developing countries, where the majority of biodiversity remains, an economic incentive to protect wildlife by compensating them adequately for the plants and animals whose genes are used on a daily basis in new drugs or crops?

- How do we develop new conservation management models, where Indigenous Peoples, local communities, NGOs and the private sector team up in joint management partnerships with governments or, indeed, more people thinking on how to conserve that biodiversity residing outside conservation areas?
- How do we coordinate and organize the sharing of scientific information and technology transfer between nations?
- How can we enable governance and participation in terms of defining the rights, roles, relationships and responsibilities of local communities in the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, building their capacity and awareness?

Policy Response

International

- What steps can we take towards strengthening coherence between CBD and the range of international instruments and other biodiversity-related conventions?

National (Biodiversity Action Plans)

- How can we develop and experiment with tools and mechanisms that will enable more effective and efficient mainstreaming of biodiversity objectives in sectoral policy and practice at sub-regional and national level?
- What methods can be introduced for incorporating local communities' interests into CBD implementation in an attempt to reverse damaged local communities' interests and undermined livelihoods?

MODERATOR OF SESSION 3 – FELIPE VILLAGRAN CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER MERO LEC A.C. MR. VILLAGRAN IS ALSO THE REGIONAL FOCAL POINT (RFP) FOR MESO AMERICA

Mero Lec A.C. is a small, very cost-efficient NGO whose philosophy is that conservation and development are not opposites but complement each other. Most of Mero Lec's work is "*pro Bono*", rendering advisory services to the target beneficiaries free of charge. The main line of work is to enable beneficiaries to improve their living conditions by increasing their income.

The latter is achieved by organizing small groups of agricultural producers, assisting them formalize their associations, and by empowering them to obtain grants and financing to achieve their objectives.

Self-reliance is the centerpiece of the approach, thus Mero Lec's role is limited to guiding the processes and to act as a facilitator, and mediator amongst the constituent parts. By increasing productivity the development objective is achieved. By increasing income generation activities the pressure on natural resources automatically diminishes hence achieving the conservation objective.

Felipe Villagran responded that NGO involvement depends on NGO's own will. Theory was one thing and implementation another.

Felipe introduced the presenter for this session, Professor Willem van Riet.

PRESENTER: PROFESSOR WILLEM VAN RIET - CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF PEACE PARKS FOUNDATION IN SOUTH AFRICA

Peace Parks Foundation is an international non-profit organization committed to facilitate the creation of a vast network of transfrontier conservation areas (TFCAs), or peace parks, across southern Africa, placing particular emphasis on the promotion of regional peace and stability, the creation of the new jobs associated to the anticipated growth of tourism in southern Africa, and the conservation of biological diversity.

The opening up of international borders is an important step towards securing lasting peace in southern Africa. This initiative does not only deal with the natural environment, but also improves relationships between countries and nations.

The three main objectives of Peace Parks Foundation are:

- 1. Protect nature/biodiversity conservation on a long-term basis*
- 2. Create jobs and a future for the local inhabitants*
- 3. Promote regional peace and stability.*

Peace Parks Foundation develops and brokers innovative partnerships in support of the TFCAs. The main focus is on crafting partnerships that enable actors to leverage their capacities and resources to accomplish more together than they might on their own.

Willem Van Riet illustrated how TFCAs seek to manage environmental and cultural resources across borders while fostering sustainable economic development, regional peace and stability. Participants discussed the need to address equity between states and communities, benefits to indigenous peoples and an integrated ecosystem approach in developing TFCAs. Willem outlined three phases in negotiating TFCAs – political acceptance in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), project planning leading to a treaty and donor funding for implementation.

Willem started his presentation by stating that the NGO Network can be as strong as the members want it to be. He thanked GEF for their support to the Peace Parks project underlining that integrated ecosystems management is crucial. He went on to explain that the Peace Parks Foundation operates in TFCAs with its major objective being the development of human resources. Through the conservation of biodiversity his organization supports sustainable economic development, regional peace and stability. Peace Parks manages resources across borders because borders are not natural.

The Peace Parks Foundation was founded to work in southern African region, for example Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park. The Foundation's work rests on three pillars: securing protected areas, training wildlife managers and guesthouse managers. There are currently 14 peace parks in southern Africa, many of these taken to levels of treaties, which make them very influential. Working groups then bring together police, military, customs, etc. departments work across borders. Laboratories have been established to practice cooperation inside southern Africa regions such as the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park lean to tourism and conservation and have been asked to assist in creating peace parks in the demilitarized zone between North and South Korea. No poaching or harvesting of resources is permitted. Training is linked to the veterinary component and the tourism college.

There exist computed global studies of potential TFCAs in world. The largest ones are found on the Canada-Alaska, and Canada-American borders. There are a large number of possible peace parks in Europe, India and Himalayas. Most national borders are quite un-environmentally friendly or so not based on ecosystems or cultural sustainability.

In Africa it is very important as a contribution to the 2010 World Cup soccer tournament to make a coast to coast tourism link, bringing all TFCAs together with a biodiversity link. The foundational link to biodiversity has been indirect but this does not mean that parks can thrive without people. People may change land use patterns, or may leave and go to other parts. Fourteen TFCAs in southern Africa have been put in place, all sitting on borders. Again, these borders do not take into account ecological ecosystems, e.g. Kavango-Upper Zambezi TFCA. It is often said that conservation does not look at local people. Nevertheless, in the TFCA approach, community and people are involved in park management often living within the park. Some parks have cultural importance such as Maloti-Drakensberg TFCA established through World Bank funding.

Professor van Riet concluded by stating that when the initiative started, it was political. There was a need to look at each site individually, engage the communities to identify the resources and the extent of their uses and see how best the local people could benefit from their sustainable use. Throughout the history of national parks, governments have taken the income generated from the parks. They have used resources in every park instead of the European concept of culling. Because local people are often denied access to resources, there is a need to implement peace parks to address the issues of the people and incorporate the concept of nationalization. Nevertheless, governments first put politicians in then engage the indigenous people later.

Felipe Villagran thanked and congratulated Professor van Riet for an excellent presentation and the quality of the audio visual material. Mr. Villagran highlighted the challenges of such enterprise as humans recognize borders, wildlife do not. He added, although we human had created artificial political boundaries, animals have ignored these boundaries for thousands of years and will continue to do so. If we consider the challenges such as containing epidemics like avian flu, how to equitably share income generated at the park. Some parks were money-spinners he said, citing the Caribbean as a good example. Mercenaries and poachers were however a threat to peace parks, Felipe added.

Mr. Villagran encouraged the speakers to consider the time constraints and to keep their interventions short to allow sufficient time for questions.

DISCUSSANTS:

GERMAN ROCHA: PRESIDENT OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE CORPORACION PAIS SOLIDARIO (CPS) AND THE REGIONAL FOCAL POINT (RFP) FOR SOUTH AMERICA

Corporación País Solidario (CPS) is a Colombian NGO created in 2004 by interested members from the Instituto Biodiversidad and the Consultant Firm M&B. Instituto Biodiversidad members brought to CPS more than eight years of experience on biodiversity and natural resources sustainable management, while M&B had five years of experience on community development practices. CPS is a non-profit research and consulting organization with an interest in ecosystems conservation; integrated water resources and land management; sustainable development; community organization; renewable forms of energy; know-how transfer;

environmental education; communications and outreach for the protection and sustainable use of tropical ecosystems.

German congratulated Professor van Riet for a phenomenal presentation which actually helped the audience to visualize the activities on the ground. His immediate reaction to the presentation was that community involvement remains vital to any peace parks development. He continued by stating that equitable access and benefits to natural resources in peace parks remains a challenge. It is a free-for-all out there and until the parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) solve the problems of access and benefit sharing, the robbery will continue. They have to declare a moratorium on access until a just protocol on access and benefit sharing is finished and implemented. Until they go through everything which includes all the hard questions Indigenous Peoples and local communities are asking and all the hard questions on sources of biodiversity, the biopirates will keep shouting in the ears of their victims. “There’s no such thing as biopiracy”.

LUCY MULENKEI: INDIGENOUS INFORMATION NETWORK REPRESENTATIVE TO THE GEF NGO NETWORK

Indigenous Information Network existing mission is “to promote, protect rights, empower and build capacity of Indigenous Peoples through education, environmental conservation, human rights, and training, and research. IIN has developed appropriate vision and mission statements as “Better livelihood for indigenous and minority peoples”. The following aspects were identified as important for the realization of the vision:

Information generation and dissemination; Equal opportunities for all [men and women], Conservation and environmental identity; Socio-economic empowerment, education, and health, Cultural and Gender mainstreaming and Advocacy and human rights training. “IIN believes that equal opportunity and information sharing are key to triggering development for indigenous and minority peoples”

The organization operates in Kenya and has members in the rest of Eastern Africa the Great Lakes region. The countries covered are Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. IIN also works closely and networks with other Indigenous Peoples Organizations from Africa and coordinates different activities especially on human rights and environment with other indigenous Peoples Organization in Africa and other parts of the world. Asia, The Pacific, Latin America, North America and Europe.

In Kenya the scope of operation is concentrated in ASAL areas that have been marginalized for a long time and involve working with Indigenous Peoples [pastoralists], and other Minority groups] in aspects of environmental conservation, advocacy and lobbying, human rights training, information generation, documentation, dissemination, and networking.

Lucy Mulenkei called on the GEF to look at Indigenous peoples issues keenly and review its protected areas policy vis-à-vis indigenous peoples, following the CBD COP8 recommendations. It was important for GEF family to involve Indigenous peoples and ensure their full and effective participation in all processes.

On the topic of moving from debate to action, Lucy highlighted the continuous struggle for recognition by Indigenous Peoples (IPs). When will Indigenous Peoples stop being displaced, when will government and development partners start take the human rights approach to

development processes? Indigenous Peoples have continued contributing and bringing out issues of concern at the Convention for Biodiversity (CBD) where clear recommendations were made. Unfortunately these recommendations have not been implemented. We are at the same despite all happy that the long awaited declarations on Indigenous Population have recently approved at the UN Human rights Council a hope that it can be ratified so that Indigenous peoples can use it to push their struggle of recognition. The approval of the declaration by the Human rights council is a good example of moving from debate to action. Urging the GEF at all partners to take the lead in making a difference in their work by involving Indigenous peoples in the planning, implementation and monitoring of the environmental project and activities.

Recommendations 8/24 COP 8 called on GEF to review its protected areas policy to assist communities to ensure full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities.. Before undertaking the project and activities affective the People, prior informed consent is essential. But many times Indigenous Peoples and their Local communities are not involved, asking the question whose land is it and whose needs are to be protected?

In compliance with CBD guidelines to review policy on protected areas, indigenous experts should be involved to ensure the projects deal with critical social issues including land tenure and undertake social impact assessments including human resources assessment before the project is undertaken. In addition, there is a requirement to establish accountability mechanisms.

Indigenous Peoples and local communities play a key role in development they should be fully involved for the success of any activity/project.. Let us therefore invite and call GEF to review and revise its protected areas policy. The decision of COP 8 goes further to ask international bodies and banks to respect Indigenous Peoples to allow their full and effective Participation. The rights based approach promotes action and full participation. We want GEF to establish a mechanism for monitoring and evaluation, which recognizes Indigenous peoples and their local communities. Lucy warned the Forum that Indigenous Peoples participating in the Assembly would be distributing a statement during this session on an agreed framework to guide the GEF and other parties on biodiversity.

ZYMANTAS MORVENAS: COUNTRY COORDINATOR FOR THE BALTIC ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM (BEF)

The BEF was founded by the Baltic Ministries of Environment, Germany and the European Commission as a technical assistance project with the aim of strengthening the co-operation among the Baltic environmental authorities. With EU accession the technical assistance projects will end. However, to keep the networks active and to implement more projects in the Baltic Sea Region the BEF team founded in 2003 of NGOs in Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania and Germany.

Zymantas Morvenas called for a strong network of NGOs in the GEF not only to talk about approaches but to feed into the GEF.

He went on to say that the CBD monitoring who merely a reporting requirement and of little value from the environment policy perspective. There was need for more action and less talk, using the SGP is an excellent example of what he meant.

Questions and Discussion

A participant addressed a question to Peace Parks asking how we deal with contentious issues across borders, e.g. avian flu. Regarding mercenaries and how they may wonder how they divide income generated from transboundary parks. Some parks are very successful in generating income, e.g. some marine parks in the Caribbean. Willem's reply was: "We agree with you, animals do not recognize man-made frontiers and they will not respect them."

Participants then discussed how various issues, including avian flu and equity for states and communities across borders, are addressed when developing TFCAs.

Peace Parks remarked that there is much more regarding the potential for developing TFCAs and that there were more benefits to be attained.

One participant asked about the extent to which they have addressed challenges to do with equity with respect to states and communities across borders.

Response:

The idea of nationalism is not helpful for protecting the environment and must be within general management guidelines. Peace Parks went to each of the 58 villages and asked them to show the extent of their resource use and then that was used to determine the line of that zone (certain protection measures taken within the community zone against predators and elephants, etc). Different plans were developed for national parks where communities retain the results of their activity. The increase in income from natural resources is dramatic. We try to take each system or place in itself and try to consider new ways of addressing conservation to benefit rural people.

Brazil: One participant sought clarification on the negotiation process in establishing transboundary parks.

Response:

Van Riet explained that there are three phases to developing a park: first, a political acceptance in the form of an MOU; then project planning and community consultation resulting in specific proposals leading to a treaty signed by the heads of state; finally donor funding for implementation.

A Peruvian participant, living in Costa Rica and working on Indigenous issues, thanked the presenter.

Another participant queried how the principle of peace parks benefits Indigenous Peoples. Indigenous Peoples have been very involved in setting up parks in Africa (taken from ancestral lands). NGOs could support this voice as well. We would like them to adopt a policy for Indigenous Peoples. Many of the projects that are now affecting Indigenous Peoples do not take account of the rights and traditional knowledge of these peoples, he noted.

A participant from Habitat Council, South Africa questioned the World Heritage Site and the South Peninsula Area in Uganda, where there is no proper management plan for the areas and they are impervious to all this wrong-doing. Furthermore the participant submitted that Indigenous Peoples of Uganda do not have access to the forests - they are landless.

One participant shared his experiences on a project at the African Conservation Centre. He narrated how they conducted consultations on land planning. This was followed by a policy

change whereby people could have individual ownership of the land. It has resulted in (previously there was a unified body for collecting and distributing revenues) creating a divide within organizations scrambling to gain the highest amount of funding and the benefits to the people have dwindled.

Gustavo (Mexico) queried what more can be done to protect the peace parks and other parks through legal measures. In practice, things may be different if laws are not enforced.

Thandi Chikomo preferred addressing challenges that deal with TFCAs and learn how to address issues with respect to communities across borders.

PANELLISTS

The chair for this session was Dorothy Manuel, the Executive Director of ZERO Regional Environment Organization and the Central Focal Point of the GEF NGO Network. She noted that the session ahead would bring to the forum concrete examples of action on the ground, some that work and some that do not work that well. She noted that in view of the time constraints each panellist would be limited to 15 minutes.

Dorothy then introduced the first panellist Marianne Sells, the Deputy Director of Instituto Ipanema, Brazil, a member of the Global Water and Gender Alliance to speak on her perspective of Water and Gender. Marianne coordinates the Water Working Group of the Brazilian Forum on Sustainable Development and Environment, related NGOs and social movements. It is one of the largest forums in the world. It also coordinates the South American Freshwater Action Network, which is the Secretariat of CAPENET Brazil, the Brazilian branch of the Capacity Building Network for Integrated Water Resources Management.

WATER AND GENDER ALLIANCES: MARIANNE SELLS- DEPUTY DIRECTOR, THE INSTITUTO IPANEMA

The Institute of Advanced Research in Economy and Environment is a civil association of created in 1996 celebrating 10 years of existence acting in local, regional, national and international level, aiming at the sustainability of the social development, politician, cultural and economic of Brazil, the countries of Latin America and the countries of the Community Lusofona. The mission is participation in the formalization of public politics, generation and dissemination of information for the promotion and perfecting of public politics that aim at the sustainable use of natural resources.

It coordinates the Water Working Group of the Brazilian Forum on Sustainable Development and Environment related NGOs and social movements, one of the largest NGO Forums in the world. It coordinates the South American Freshwater Action Network. It is the Secretariat of Cap-Net Brazil, the Brazilian branch of the Capacity Building Network for Integrated Water Resources Management, an affiliate of the Global Water Partnership (GWP). It is a founding member of the Gender and Water Alliance (GWA).

Marianna Sell, Deputy Director, Instituto Ipanema, illustrated both policies and actions for mainstreaming women into Brazil's water policy and management.

Highlighting the low participation of women in Brazil's water policy and management, this institution has come a long way in ensuring the gender perspective. Today, much has been

achieved, the special secretary of women policy has a seat on the National Water Resource Council and gender has been mainstreamed in the National Water Resources Plan Major Guidelines.

However, the major challenges refer to effective implementation of gender mainstreaming in water policy and management faced by low representation in water councils, river basin committees and the low level capacity of decision makers. This is clearly evident in the data from the Ministry of Environment through a head count of how many women are on state councils. It clearly indicates that the participation of women is very low and even lower in state river basin committees. In Federal River Basin Committees this is even worse.

What the council does is to work for the effective mainstreaming of gender issues in plans and implementation. In this regard they have been working with the National Special Secretary for Women Policy for the National Women Policies Plan's implementation within some of the state capitals of Brazil. An important outcome has been the capacity building and empowerment of decision-makers in the National Water Resources Management System by systematic training of trainers and ensuring a multiplier effect. There currently exists a training of trainers programme for gender targeting capacity building for 40 people in the river basin. There have also worked in agro-forestry, tackling issues of women and youth. Ongoing projects for capacity building for social inclusion exist in small towns as well as dormitories in Rio which are extremely poor, dangerous and violent.

There exist myths that Brazil does not have a water problem. This is not true. Brazil does have problems with water which is poorly distributed.

CAP-NET is the largest NGO network in the world focusing on gender and water. The National Water Resources Plan for January 2006 had gender as one its priority policies. The organization is currently working together with the Special Secretary for Women Policy. Marianne was extremely happy to hear about women being spoken about and with all the organizations concerned with gender empowerment.

CSOs are represented in effective employment of policies in projects established in water management in the river basin communities and play a central role in raising awareness of gender sensitive issues. The institute works for the effective mainstreaming of gender together with the Special Secretary and problem areas have been identified in water issues within the peripheral areas in Brazil. Regarding the interest in promoting capacity building and effective partnerships, CAP-NET has partnerships with the private sector, municipality and local government. Dialogue is promoted among these stakeholders by holding workshops as well as courses in river basin management. A petroleum company together with the SGP have been working on the reforestation of the Atlantic project, MDGs incorporating the JPI and capacity building at street level.

Dorothy introduced the next panellist as Mr Johannes Chigwada, the Programme Manager of ZERO Regional Environment Organization who presented a capacity building initiative on Climate Change and Adaptation. Mr Chigwada is one of the four regional CLACC fellows, the Chair of Southern African Climate Action Network (SARCAN) and a member of the National Selection Committee for GEF/SGP and Africa 2000 in Zimbabwe.

CAPACITY STRENGTHENING FOR CIVIL SOCIETY IN THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES ON ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE (CLACC)- ASIA (BANGLADESH, BHUTAN, NEPAL) AND AFRICA (WESTERN, EASTERN, SOUTHERN): JOHANNES CHIGWADA- PROGRAMME MANAGER ZERO

Johannes Chigwada, ZERO Regional Environment Organization, discussed how the Capacity Strengthening of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) for Adaptation to Climate Change (CLACC) project is being implemented in 12 LDCs.

He went briefly through the evolution of the idea and the progress made to date, explaining that this initiative aims to help civil society adapt to climate change in least developed countries. A more detailed explanation was given on how this initiative has planned to strengthen the capacity of civil society in LDCs to enable participants to adapt to climate change and includes government led processes such as the National Adaptation Programme of Actions.

Johannes touched on the structure of CLACC, pointing out that IIED, coordinating partner and outlining the regional and national partners. There are 50 least developed countries in the world, most of them in Africa, Asia and South America. The LDC Fund is replenished and managed by the GEF.

The CLACC activities take place at different levels and including: a fellowship programme and action research and awareness raising.

CHAIR

Dorothy introduced the next panellist as Simone Lovera, the Campaign Coordinator of Global Forest Coalition.

SOCIAL IMPACTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES' MARKETS: SIMONE LOVERA- CAMPAIGN COORDINATOR GLOBAL FOREST COALITION

The World Rainforest Movement is one of the founding members of the Global Forest Coalition, an informal and inclusive coalition of non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Indigenous Peoples' Organizations (IPOs) engaged in the global policy debate related to forests. The coalition, which was established at the last session of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests in February 2000, aims to facilitate the informed participation of a broad group of NGOs and IPOs in the global policy debate relating to forests, and to promote and monitor the implementation of the commitments made during this debate.

It is widely recognized that the lack of implementation of the numerous existing commitments in the field of forest policy, such as the Proposals for Action of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF Pfa) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is intricately linked with deforestation and forest degradation. NGOs and IPOs can play a major role in increasing the effectiveness of international policy and law. Through monitoring, advocacy campaigns and raising public awareness they are able to draw national attention for often unknown international commitments and to create the political will to implement them. An important tool to advance these aims is formed by independent reports on the implementation of international policy proposals, which can increase pressure at both the international and the national level to implement international commitments.

Simone Lovera explained that payment for ecosystem services is only possible where the environment is commodified and freely traded. Arguing against this neo-liberal approach

she emphasised the benefits of democratic public governance as a system for natural resource management.

Payments for environmental services like subsidies in many ways have little to do with markets. Biodiversity can best be conserved by giving it market value. A basic requirement for this is to commodify it, privatize it, and promote free trade at local and international level. Environmental service markets consist of carbon, genetic resources ecotourism, biodiversity offsets and watersheds.

There is concern about private sector engagement and private management of biodiversity initiatives. Although there is money to be made this will happen at the expense of the poor. It was also a good idea to think of the social impacts. Because so many government subsidies are included as a market mechanism, money rules versus democracy. If you privatize then governmental control is lost and again at what cost? Markets could be effective if a number of conditions are managed.

Markets are presented as alternative to regulation and in so doing undermine the government. When you turn something into a market trade rules apply. Simone called for a look at alternatives to the neo-liberal approach such as democratic public governance.

Despite the fact that most existing analyses were sceptical about the social impacts of environmental services markets, especially given the fact that in practice few social safeguards and enforcement mechanisms exist, large conservation organizations and commercial enterprises are still pushing hard to establish such markets. The main victims of the market-based approach to environmental services protection are those who do not have the cash to buy their water, fuel wood and medicines. They include women, Indigenous Peoples, landless farmers and monetary poor in general. These people also lack the formal land title, marketing skills, investment capital and information they would need if they wished to compete in environmental services markets. She urged government to safeguard sustainable democratic public governance.

Market-based mechanisms are slightly different from paying environmental services and subsidized government schemes as they ensure free trade. However, there is some argument regarding CBOs and government to protect public rights and promote eco-tourism.

In the interests of conserving biodiversity for social/spiritual reasons bilateral agreements in trade and services are critical. Just as critical are partnerships and private sector engagement.

CHAIR

Dorothy introduced the next panellists Dr Maria Leichener and Dr Miguel Reynal. Maria is the Founder and Executive Director of the Fundacion ECOS. Miguel of La Barra de Maldonado, Uruguay, is Executive President of Foundation ECOS/WWF, a non-profit educational foundation focused on sustainable development and environmental management for decision makers in South America.

MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION OF WETLAND BIODIVERSITY OF THE ESTEROS DEL IBERA: DR MARIA LEICHENER- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FUNDACION ECOS AND DR MIGUEL REYNAL -EXECUTIVE PRESIDENT, FUNDACION ECOS/WWF

ECOS mission is to integrate environmental stewardship, economic development and the wellbeing of all people –not just for today but for countless generations to come. This is the challenge facing governments, non-governmental organizations, private enterprises, communities and individuals. ECOS promotes the transition toward a sustainable future. We seek to demonstrate how we can be applied to improve the wellbeing of the environment, economy and society. ECOS meets this challenge by advancing policy recommendations on international trade and investment, economic policy, measurement and indicators and natural resource management to make development sustainable.

ECOS vision of society, a paradigmatic shift in our world view is required if we are going to maintain an adequate quality of life. To accomplish this the concept that effective and open processes and recognition of diversity of people, ways of thinking and acting in all personal, human and work endeavors – as well as local, national and international governance is the key mechanism necessary to the creation and viability of a sustainable society.

Dr Miguel Reynal/Dr Maria Leichener presented on civil society involvement in planning and establishing the GEF-funded Reserva Provincial del Ibera, the largest protected wetland in Argentina.

Through the GEF funding a 2 million hectare bathtub was created and the tourism figures have risen. Dr Maria Leichener described the organizational issues surrounding the amount of work that was required to be undertaken. Workshops were where it was explained what Ibera was all about. It was also necessary to explain why the project was brought in from the outside. In spite of this, people who work with communities found themselves in a situation which they do not understand.

An ecosystem was the major point of interest. Through title and ownership 1 800 private land owners have been transformed into one of the most valuable wetlands in the world, larger than the Everglades in the USA. The only water that this area receives is rain water. Two million hectares of pure and pristine water is reserved. This also makes it unique. Marshes and swamps are made up of floating biomass. The only human inhabitants are “gouchos”. It is a very inhospitable place for habitation. Families survive from hunting and fishing.

The presenters provided a snapshot of what is on the ground and what comprises three years work undertaken by the Institute to give participants some idea of what is involved and to stress what they have been doing. The project has taken three years to implement and is a GEF/UNDP MSP project. Local communities are grateful for the project which benefits approximately 2 000 – 220 000 people. This is a test tube case of what happens when an organization goes into an area and decided to turn it into a park or preserve. The organization in its initial methodology tried to get the communities involved from day one. The biggest challenge was not just setting up the project but implementing it. The idea was that as more people used water resources they would start working in an organized way. Although a law was passed in 1996 to set aside this area as a reserve this was never put on statute books. It is important to stress that within reserves of this size, what has to be acknowledged is that it is not something that belongs to the province. This means Ibera belongs to the people. If any restrictions are placed then these zones become a source of conflict.

Recently the project has run into political problems. The NGO is facing a major challenge in staying put and continuing with the project in an environment of political conflict/turmoil. The NGO is involved in an internal debate that has since spilled into the public domain. The media is

talking about a scandal of the parks water resources being used by individuals. How does it work?

Question and Discussion

Participants discussed involving all stakeholders, including women, in community consultations, the importance of legal frameworks that account for the rights and prior informed consent of local communities and local concerns about the activities of foreign-funded NGOs.

One American participant who was involved in community level consultations believed that sufficient attention was given to people who felt they would be economically harmed by the reserve. Some people had excessive conservation bias and insufficient attention was given to this.

One participant felt it was important to identify the actual stakeholders. It is important to know who is involved and who has been left out. He agreed with the American participant but expressed misgivings where some stakeholders were not sufficiently consulted although the project did carry out innumerable consultations with all the surrounding authorities and communities. The project became a political handball. This negatively affected the implementation of the project. At the beginning, when asked who wanted to know about the management plan nobody cared about what happened there because it was not something that people really cared about and they did not want to know about it.

One participant sought clarification from Simone Lovera in relation to NGOs versus communities.

Simone's Response:

There is a specific additional concern; it is not only that it happens but it adds a whole dimension, a feeling that people lose control over their own land to foreign NGOs land trusts. This is of concern to Argentinians, and similarly in Paraguay, where they are very concerned about foreign NGOs sponsored by USAID promoting concepts that kick farmers off the land because they need fewer farmers to produce. You end up with a countryside without people. On the issue of local concerns about the activities of foreign-funded NGOs in countries such as Paraguay and Argentina, Simone noted the fundamental question of whether we believe in biodiversity conservation with or without people.

One participant queried how we can build a legal framework from the bottom up or top down. She said that this was important for the whole development process and needs to be covered by a legal framework which should take into account the rights and the active involvement of all participants. There was need to flag a message to the GEF that these are basic things that need to be focused on – what are the responsibilities on both sides, especially in terms of prior consent; we cannot just keep going on without making sure people are properly informed.

One participant highlighted the importance of legal frameworks for the development processes that take into account the rights and consent of local communities.

Marianne's Response:

Marianne said that when we talk about gender, we are talking about men, women and youth, adding civil society can be extraneous for their participation. It is not only about having a seat

but being aware of the gender issues. On the ground, she said, her organization worked on projects to empower women so that they can participate in all aspects of life.

Mexico wanted to know why the CLACC did not include Burkina Faso in the list of countries yet this was an LDC.

Johannes's Response:

Burkina Faso is one of the 50 countries but it was not selected as only nine countries in Africa are participating.

Another participant sought clarification on financially poor or monetarily poor – what other kind of poor is there?

Leslie Walling told participants that at the recent Caribbean meeting the question was asked whether when we talk about gender we talking about women participating in all issues or women participating in the context of women's issues specifically.

One participant queried whether it was intentional that small and larger landowners were not consulted and asked what was the level of involvement in terms of planning? And what actions would be taken to rectify the position?

Ibera's Response:

The authorities are now fully behind the management plan. At least four workshops were convened before the management plan was designed in all seven communities with an intensive awareness-raising campaign with the schools in the area. The management plan was distorted and a lot of non-existent things were brought forward. In a sense, as an NGO, we were doing work for GEF etc. In relation to gender and women involvement we created a process whereby the people could be involved if they wanted to be. I said I do not think GEF should back away from the project at this point nor be frustrated in its objectives and purpose as it is not something that has become resolved in the eyes of the society affected by the reserve and today it has become a national issue, no longer a state issue. I reiterate for GEF that these organizations should not back away from the project at this time or else the money would be badly invested.

A participant posed a question relating to community level involvement– how was this addressed? Where there consultations with different sectors of society?

Ibera's Response:

Much consultation was done with different sectors of society. We did not give sufficient importance to consultations directed at people that were economically injured by the project and some of the people on our team had an excessive conservation bias. Little importance is given to the producers and small land owners.

Paul Mafati, (Uganda) sought clarification on whether there was a clear policy on how people will manage the resources? Did you seek the fund first and then advise people you had money? He noted that communities were always keen when they hear that money is available but they do not realize what is involved.

Dos Santos, (Peace Parks) requested clarification in terms of ecosystem management. Did this refer to international or local NGOs?

Ibera's Response:

Validation was done by the project before designing the reserve except for one sector of smallholders not sufficiently consulted. Innumerable meetings were carried out and adequately done. The project became a “political handball” for both sides. At the beginning of the project, nobody wanted to know about a management plan – this was not something the people really cared about.

Ibera's Response:

There was a fair amount of consultation and we do not want to convey the wrong impression that small land owners were continuously consulted and use this as a scapegoat. Four workshops were held before the management plan. The management plan was distorted and non-existing negative aspects were brought to the fore particularly with regard to expropriation. A commission was created to follow up the process and smallholders were involved.

Simone's Response:

It was not per definition. International/foreign NGOs adds a whole dimension to people having the feeling that they lose control over their land. We work a lot with farmer movements who are very concerned about foreign NGOs predominately financed by USAID promoting such concepts. It looks to be a new form of colonialization of the Paraguay people. Do we believe in biodiversity conservation? People are not being consulted and there are not being respected.

A question was raised from an Indigenous person about the questions raised regarding the legal framework. How can you build this framework from the bottom up? This is difficult for local people. To allow development process there is need for legal framework. Projects do not take into account the rights of the people and the full and active participation from one and all. We need a consultative process – what are the procedures? How do you go about this? How can you make the decision-making process dynamic and participatory? There is no ownership at grassroots level. This should be communicated to the new GEF informing them about these basic things.

One participant queried whether the gender issue was only from a point of view of women's participation. We have questioned this in terms of responsibility, accountability and what contribution we can make to this process?

Marianne's Response:

Gender is not about women but to an extent women have been in a disadvantaged position from the employment sector to representation in legal structures. Women have a weak position in the family. Gender is usually more sensitive. It involves capacity building of both men and women.

Summary of All Sessions (Rex Horoi):

In closing the event, Forum Moderator Rex Horoi stressed the link between top-down and bottom-up decision-making processes so as to “turn policy into reality from the ground up”.

Forum Moderator, Rex Horoi, thanked the NGO Network for organizing the event and all in the room for participating. In summary, he underlined the need to link top-down and bottom-up within decision-making processes through more effective and transparent participation in order to turn policy into reality from the ground up. Facilitating effective linkages through

participation of all parties is crucial. An important point is participation and linking the policy and action in a more effective and transparent way.

Rex submitted that in view of the various topics discussed it would be difficult to summarize. He, however, promised a more detailed record of the proceedings at a later stage.

Providing a number of thank yous, he recognized the Central Focal Point, Dorothy Manuel's hard work in putting together such an ambitious and rich programme. Thanks to the GEF NGO Network representatives that have assisted her and especially to Ravi Sharma, Alaa Sarhan and Funke Oyewole for all their assistance and support and putting all logistics in place.

With thanks he congratulated all participants for creating corridors of communication, constructive debate and links between regions every minute of the day, in the room, during coffee breaks. Linking all the countries together – Pacific, Africa, Caribbean, Latin America, America and Europe, remained optimistic that these links will be followed up.

A special thank you was extended to presenters who did extremely well in presenting issues in a succinct and informative way, provoking all in the room at all times. He also thanked discussants for their influence in keeping participants minds moving, for contributing in the engagement of all present and keeping them focused. Moderators – Rajen Awotar (land) who summarized very well and made it easier. Leslie Walling (climate) who ensured that all the topics ran smoothly and there were no loopholes and Felipe Villagran (Biodiversity) also received accolades.

Rex was capturing some of key points including the goals, objectives and expectations. The Forum's goal was make policy a reality from bottom up. When we look at bottom-up approach policy is critical and needed. At global level of GEF Conventions, the reconciliation needs to be made between global vs. local benefits.

Rex questioned the term participation: what does it mean? Redefine link with the private sector. There is consultation and there is participation. Involving communities in what we do.

Relating to the key points contained in the objectives and expectations of the Forum "Turning Policy into Reality: from the Bottom Up" he emphasized that the linking is critical. Policy is needed and so is action. There is a need to ensure participation of all.

Referring to the middle section of ice cream cone paradigm outlined at the beginning of the Forum he pointed to the stronghold in facilitating effective linkages, the building smart partnerships and how GEF can master and/or exploit a very good link with NGOs and other stakeholders.

Regarding the three presentations: land degradation, made the important point of Somalia being invisible, highlighted the focus on charcoal. IPs signified the importance of a rights-based approach. The climate change and energy challenge highlighted sustainable energy issues, the need to exchange information and best practices. In the third presentation on biodiversity, Professor Willem van Riet of Peace Parks made an incredible presentation on GIS, displaying the shift from worshipping animals to helping human beings. Case studies demonstrated key issues. For example, on gender mainstreaming, the important point is about development, not just about women but ensuring equal opportunity for everybody; constructive engagement of non-state actors with government, policymakers to engage effectively with non-state actors.

Simply put, civil society participation is important to the successful implementation of GEF projects and NGO involvement at the Council levels reflects a positive step in the right direction in building trust and confidence between NGOs and governments around the world. The need to link the top down to bottom up decision-making is an important point is participation and linking the policy and action in a more effective and transparent way.

The new CEO referred to RAF and smart partnerships, specifically the need for encouraging the private sector. SGP has moved for NGOs involvement in the monitoring and evaluation, this was innovative and would be a very good link with smallholders.

In conclusion, “It does not correspond with world services? Don’t worry about the money, worry about what it does – combine private sector, individuals, NGOs. These can be spoken about and will be regarded as the handset of the NGO Forum. Analysis will be done so that what has been discussed will be put forward as recommendations. This is certainly a beginning of a new chapter and we need to work together”.

CLOSING REMARKS – ACHIM STEINER: NEWLY ELECTED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP) AND CURRENTLY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE WORLD CONSERVATION UNION (IUCN).

The key mission of UNEP is to provide leadership and encourage partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing and enabling nations and people to improve the quality of life without compromising that of future generations.

Achim Steiner urged civil society to remain engaged in the international environmental discourse, reassess its future role in the GEF and other international processes and develop new ways of thinking about existing dilemmas.

In closing the event, Achim, noted that it is 10-16 years since the GEF was envisaged in one form or another, since there was a commitment of what was at the heart of 1992: a social contract between the North and the South. We have to celebrate our achievements in rescuing the GEF. Only six to twelve months ago, it was not clear whether there would be replenishment. Behind it are notions of global solidarity, sharing in addressing the costs of global environmental problems.

What is the evolving role of civil society in the context of the GEF? How does an NGO Forum leave a mark on what is being discussed here? How do we translate the lessons that are presented on here? We have to face the fact that in some ways, civil society has retreated into the level where it can do real work, to get away from nebulous international discourse to do practical work, a vital part of the credibility and capacity to do something. There are present enough experiences about everyday “bread and butter” issues. Here is the only instrument that is addressing greater environmental change between the North and South that challenges governments. But let me appeal to NGOs not to limit themselves to presenting their individual experiences but rather to play a greater role pushing forward the international debate.

Some of the struggles are also about how we engage the rest of society. Referring to Simone’s speech, Achim agreed that she was right in the sense that the way markets are portrayed in the neo-classical sense means that they do not hold the keys to conservation, etc, but he also said that it is time to recognize that the whole world functions as markets, every single

farmer engages with markets. Markets are not something we should reject in too simple a fashion. He said that he does not quite agree with the portrayal of Costa Rica – it has set environmental sustainability goals and they have even met some. Markets have far too long been captured as part of neo-classical thought. Markets are social constructs, results of political negotiation and articulation. Let us liberate ourselves from some concepts if we are going to talk to the rest of society. We must move to a more sophisticated level of engagement to the dilemmas out there; we cannot use the portrayal of such dilemmas that we used 15 years ago when we were trying to put them on the political agenda. Civil society must have strategy to influence the mechanisation of the GEF in all structures, thereby taking a more significant part.

Civil society is quite a complex player in international processes now in trying to find solutions. If civil society engagement at the national level in processes like the GEF is to be more than just accompanying talk, then accept that yes civil society is right in the midst of the challenge of development determining who gains and who loses. Civil society should make a more significant attempt to influence funding and the processes that sets funding for the GEF. Civil society is a complex player in the system.

With reference to the role of the GEF in the future there are so many scenarios. How do three occupiers of space in international system work? What do you as civil society have to say about these three actors, what do the three actors have to say about one another as each three account for and to one another? What is role of government programme? What is it about the private sector from peasant farmer to global business? What has happened since the formalization in 1992? How does each of three occupiers of space operate under international governance? What do CSOs have to say about how each of these interacts? Does civil society accept this? What is civil society going to do next to try to align to the needs/interests of the international community and keep the global environment change of our times under review? These are some of the hard facts UNEP is addressing in these hard questions. Do you know what CSOs are going to do to align the comments of international communities with local level? Significant things will happen in the next two to three years in terms of the international environmental processes and trying to stay in institutional paradigms. Achim urged civil society to watch these developments. This is a discourse and engagement that needs to be addressed well before the meeting of the Assembly.

It is critical that CSOs and NGOs take note of what is taking place this week. 1992 to GEF 4 is essentially a commitment to establish a social contract between North and South and beginning of taking a development path on an upward curve. The institutional, policy and alliance paradigms that once led to the Earth Summit in 92 can be achieved again.

May I encourage civil society to work together, plan together and act together.

ANNEXES

A PROJECT OF EARTHLIFE AFRICA JOHANNESBURG & PARTICIPANT IN THE ENERGY CAUCUS SUSTAINABLE ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE PARTNERSHIP (SECCP)

Richard Worthington: Project Co-Ordinator of The Sustainable Energy and Climate Change Partnership (Seccp)

Four areas of project activity to promote sustainable energy and address climate change

- Advocacy and building awareness and capacity;
- Research and information dissemination;
- South-North-South networking and collaboration;
- Supporting the South African Climate Action Network (SACAN).

Table 7.4: Fuel combustion CO₂ emissions by intensity and per capita, 2000

Source: IEA (2002)

	<i>CO₂/cap (tons/capita)</i>	<i>CO₂/GDP (kg/1995 US\$)</i>	<i>CO₂/GDP PPP (kg/1995 PPP\$)</i>
South Africa	6.91	1.73	0.79
Africa	0.86	1.16	0.43
Non-OECD	2.24	1.73	0.64
OECD	11.10	0.45	0.51
World	3.89	0.69	0.56

Key: PPP = purchasing power parity, GDP = Gross domestic product

Below 2 degrees

- Preventing dangerous climate change is an equity issue
- Some are already experiencing dangerous changes
- Developing countries will suffer the most from already committed warming
- Climate change should be kept below a peak of 2oC warming and then reduced as rapidly as possible.
- Peaking at less than 2oC will not prevent major damages, but we are already committed to a warming of over 1oC
- Doubling CO₂ targets or 450 ppmv CO₂ stabilization targets will lead to dangerous climate change.

ADAPTATION

- Calculating incremental costs of adaptation in development projects is unreasonable for bottom-up work to increase access to land, water and sustainable energy
- If the global environment is to be managed sustainably, all sectors of society, especially those closest to the environment, for survival, as well as those who advocating options to retain ecological integrity, need to be involved and be brought into the Resource Allocation Framework
- Engagement with NGOs and CBOs must go beyond seeking comment

- With energy so central to the globalized economy and the intergenerational equity dimension of climate change so remote from economic thinking and thus policy priorities, the voices of civil society provide the only perspective that is truly aligned to the ultimate objectives of the GEF.

Climate Justice (Bali 2003 - excerpts)

- Climate Justice affirms the right of indigenous peoples and local communities to participate effectively at every level of decision-making, the strict enforcement of principles of prior informed consent, and the right to say “No.”
- Climate Justice affirms that any market-based or technological solution to climate change, such as carbon-trading and carbon sequestration, should be subject to principles of democratic accountability, ecological sustainability and social justice.
- Affirming the principle of ecological debt, Climate Justice demands that fossil fuel and extractive industries be held strictly liable for all past and current life-cycle impacts relating to the production of greenhouse gases and associated local pollutants.
- Climate Justice calls for clean, renewable, locally controlled and low-impact energy resources in the interest of a sustainable planet for all living things.
- Climate Justice affirms the need for socio-economic models that safeguard the fundamental rights to clean air, land, water, food and healthy ecosystems.

CHALLENGES

- Balancing local and global impact reduction - not re-locating pollution to the South
- Holding trans-national corporations accountable in competitive global economy
- SA’s carbon-intensive national economy
- Weak National CC Response Strategy

Independent Research

Green Power, public benefits and electricity sector restructuring’ (2001)

‘Energy Sustainability Indicators for South Africa’ (May 2002)

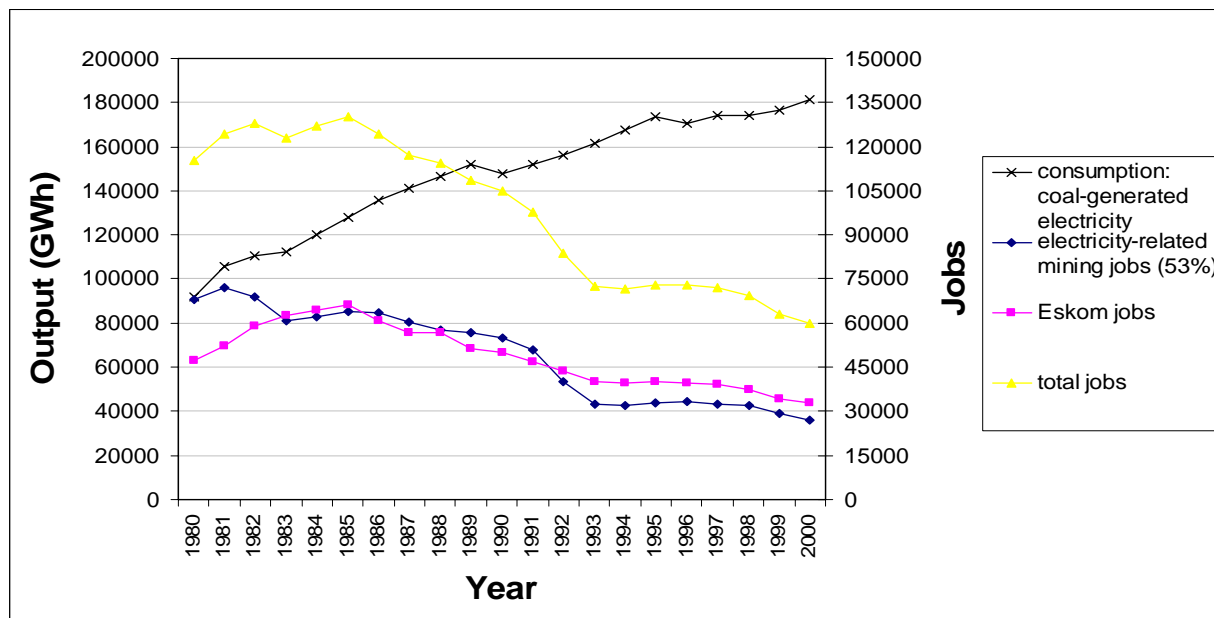
‘Policies and Measures for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency’ (EDRC with ERI, UCT, April 2003)

‘Employment Potential of Renewable Energy in South Africa’ (AGAMA Energy, November 2003)

‘The Potential Contribution of Renewable Energy in South Africa’ (RAPS Consulting with Nano Energy, April 2005 & February 2006)

Employment in coal-based electricity generation in South Africa

Source: Own analysis, based on data from Eskom (1989), Eskom (2002), Statistics SA (1995), Statistics SA (2002), NER (2000), DME (2003c).



R. Spalding-Fecher, D.K. Matibe *Electricity and externalities in South Africa*, Energy Policy 31 (2003) 721–734, Elsevier

Table 4

Summary of external costs of Eskom electricity generation, 1999

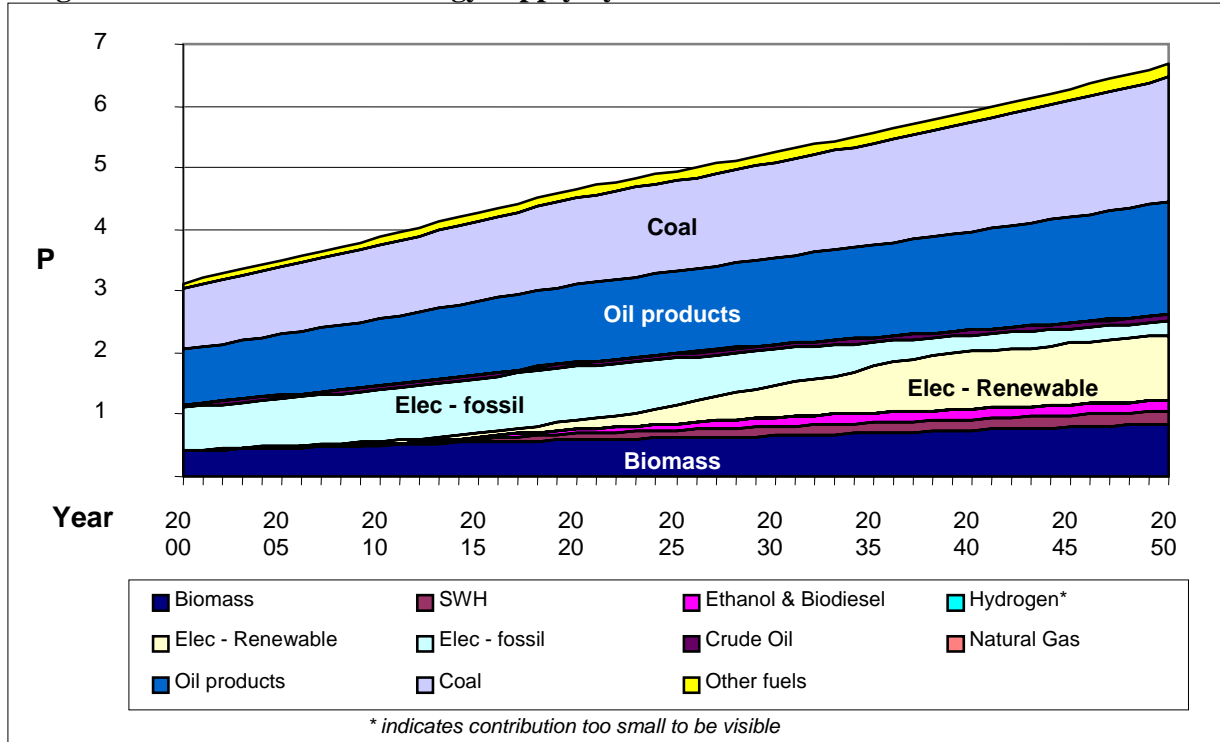
(1999 R m)	Low	Central	High
Air pollution and health	852	1177	14 50
Electrification	-173	-958	-2 324
Climate change	1625	7043	16 258
Total	2304	7262	15 379

‘The Potential Contribution of RE in South Africa’ Banks, D. & Schäffler, J. (2005)

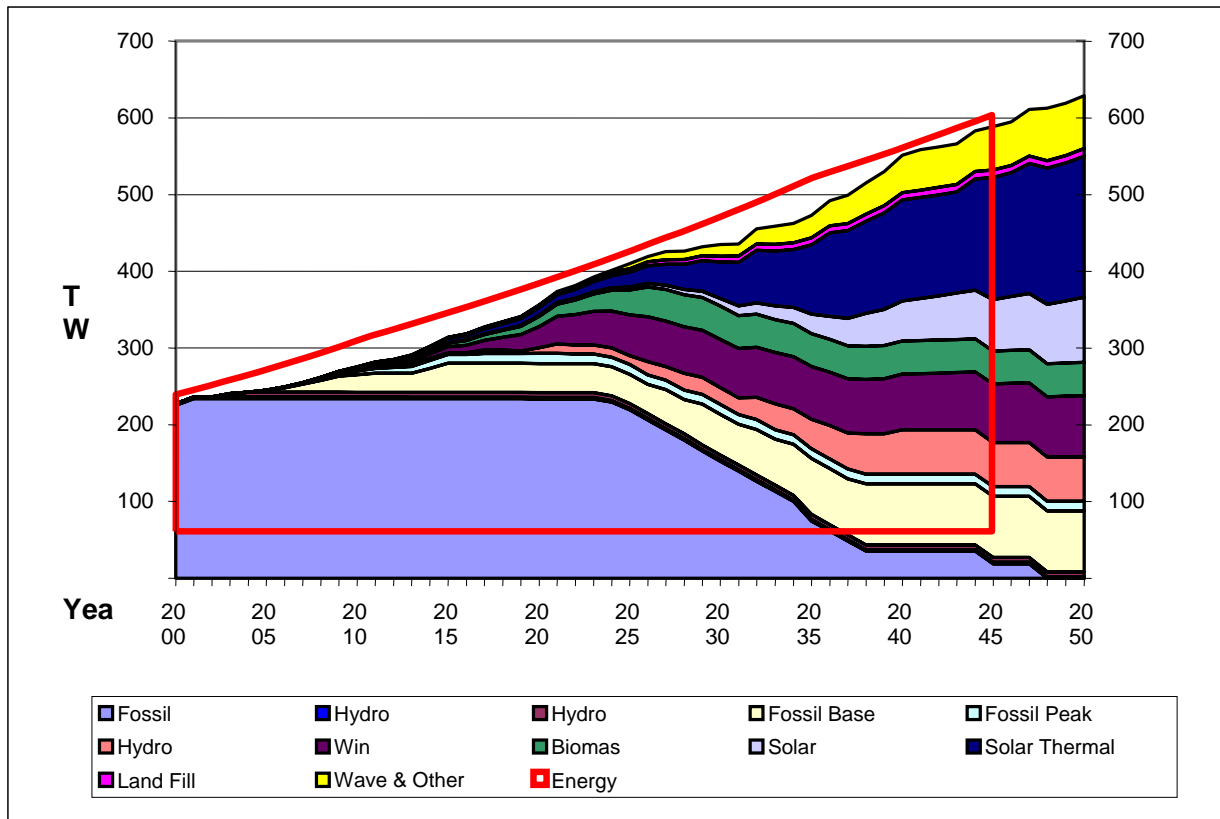
Study conclusions:

- Renewable energy technologies could provide over 50% of total energy supply by 2050;
- RE electricity generating technologies can generate up to 90% of electricity needs by 2050;
- Several renewable energy technologies could be cheaper than new fossil fuel options within ten years if concerted development starts now;

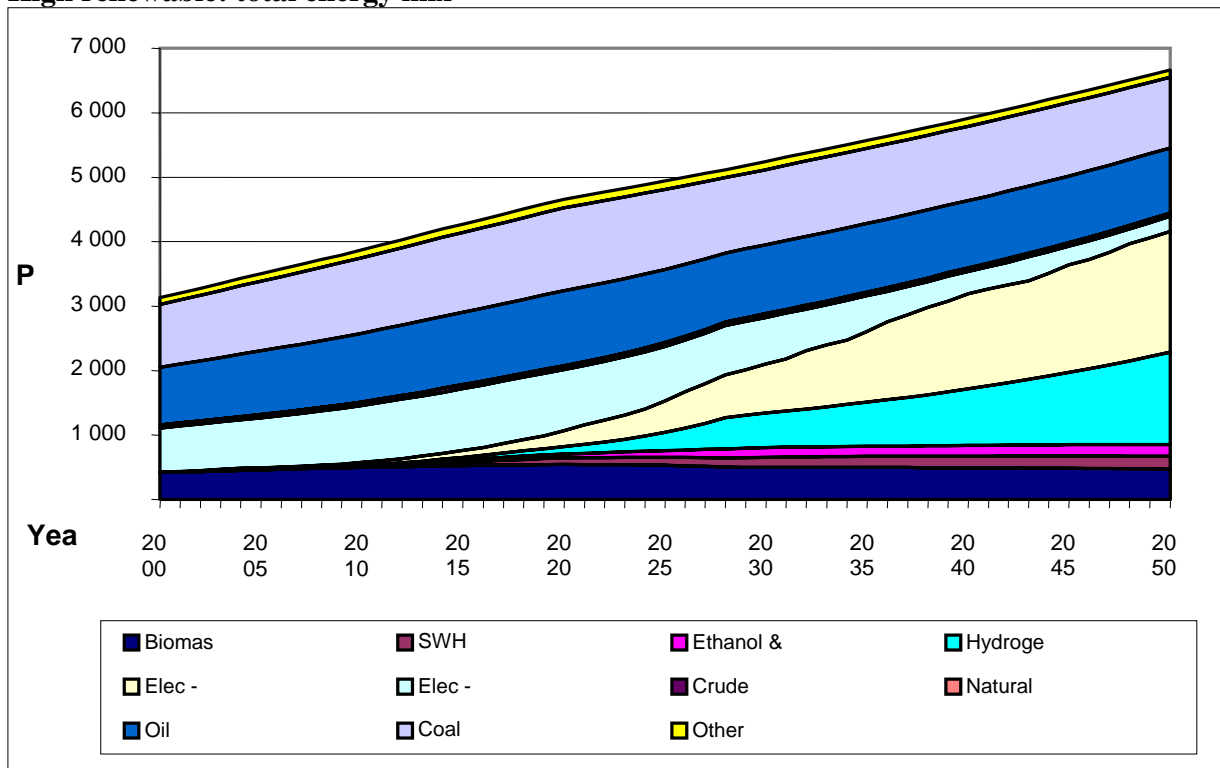
Progressive renewable: final energy supply by resource



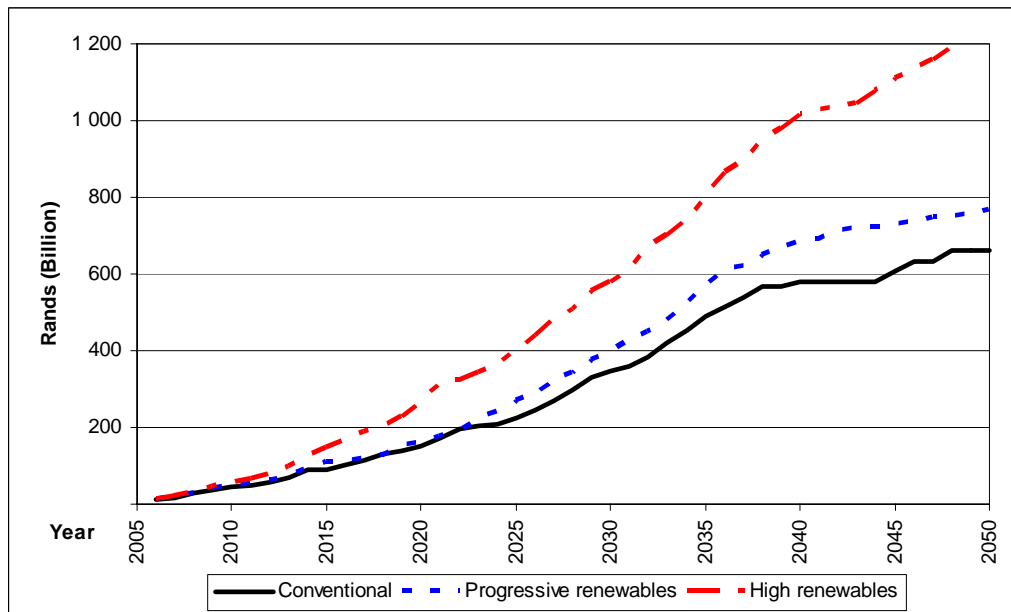
High renewable: electricity supply



High renewable: total energy mix

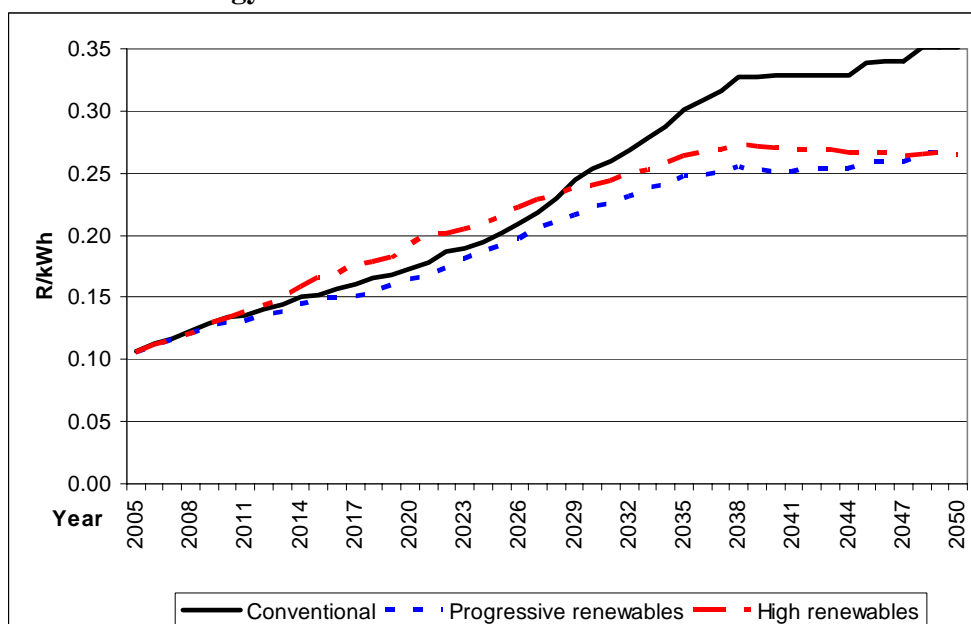


Cumulative capital required: all scenarios



Business as usual – cheaper on capital – it is the fuel costs that make total cost per kWh more...

Unit costs of energy – all scenarios



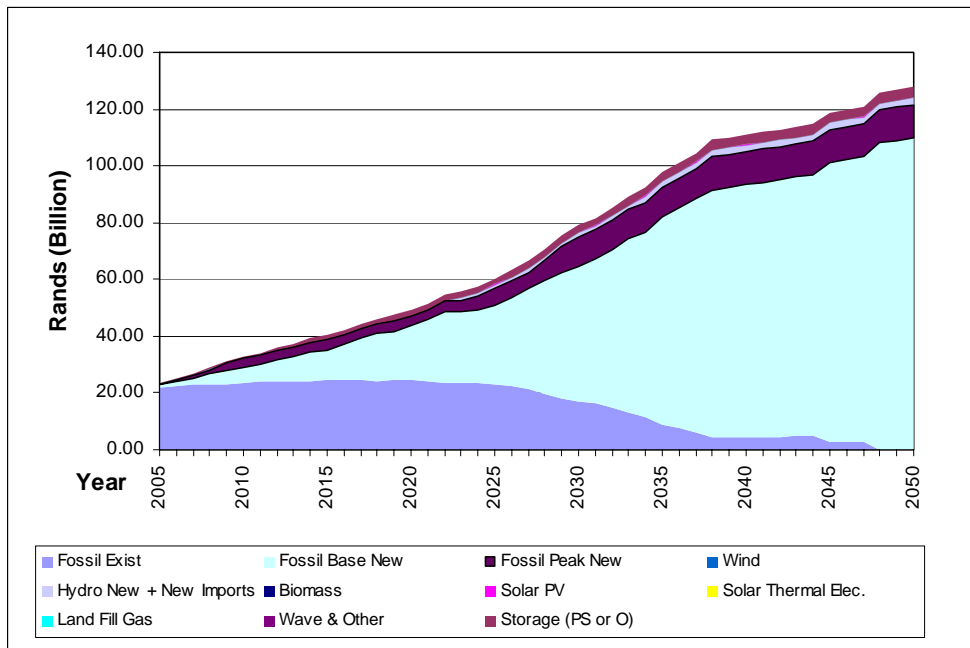
Cost per kWh – note renewables end up being cheaper given our assumptions.

Note: this is controversial – some argue will not be cheaper – depends on how much fossils increase. Probably as much if not more uncertainty about fossil price increases as there is about renewable energy price decreases. At least once Renewables installed- price is effectively fixed.

Note- ignore differences in first few years – in sufficient accuracy in data. However, note that during early years, RE may cost quite a bit, but its impact on average price is small, because it contributes such a low percentage of the total

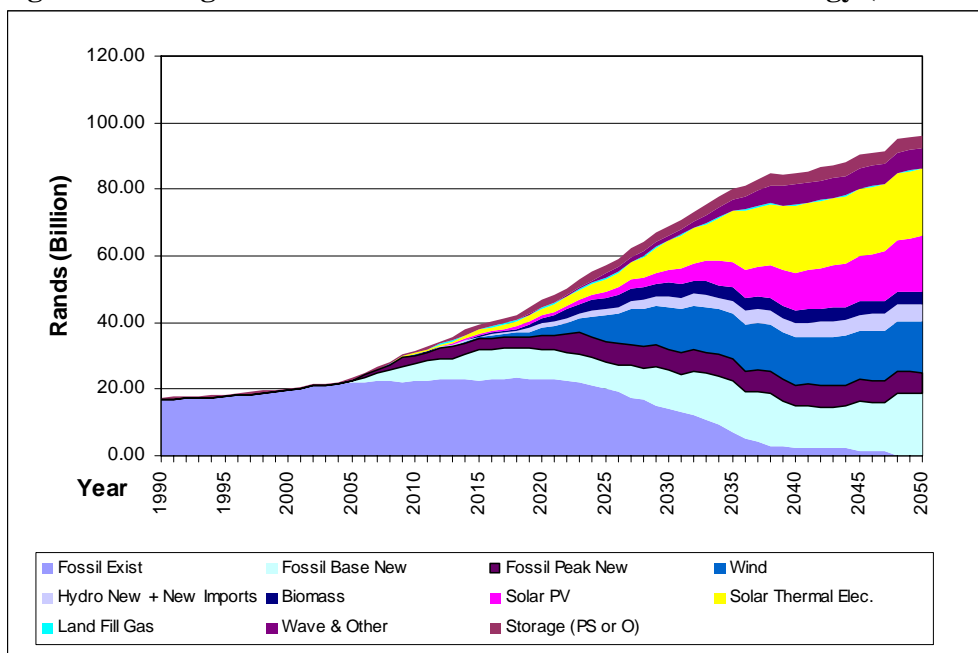
Business as Usual

Scenario: Total cost of energy (electricity) by year



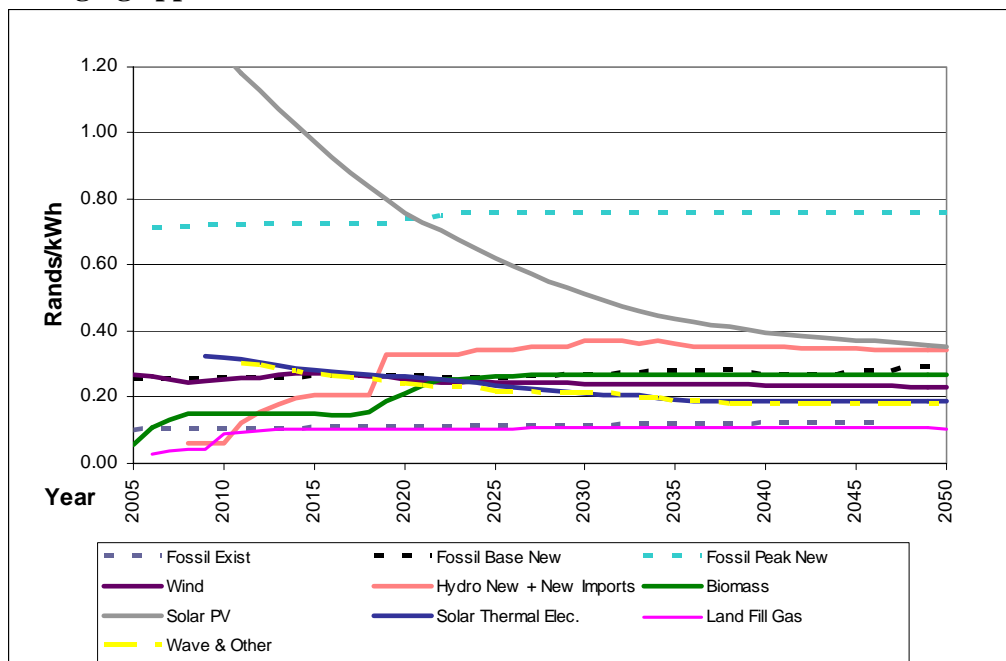
Given above cost assumptions, note increase in cost of electricity generated- rising from 20 billion to 120 billion (for about twice as much energy) [Reminder, our current costs are very low- approx 10 c/kWh or less for old coal plant)

Figure D-7 Progressive Renewable Scenario: Total cost of energy (electricity) by year



As will be noted, progressive renewable is cheaper (in the long term) (Given our assumptions!) Also note the size (in billions of Rands) of the different renewable energy industries. Note- these are 'real' prices, not inflated.

Cost of electricity for different technologies Note: fixed at year of installation – cost averaging applied



Overlay of renewable technologies

Note- these costs per kWh are mean to represent amount at which generator would have to sell electricity to recover ALL costs (capital, maintenance, decommissioning).

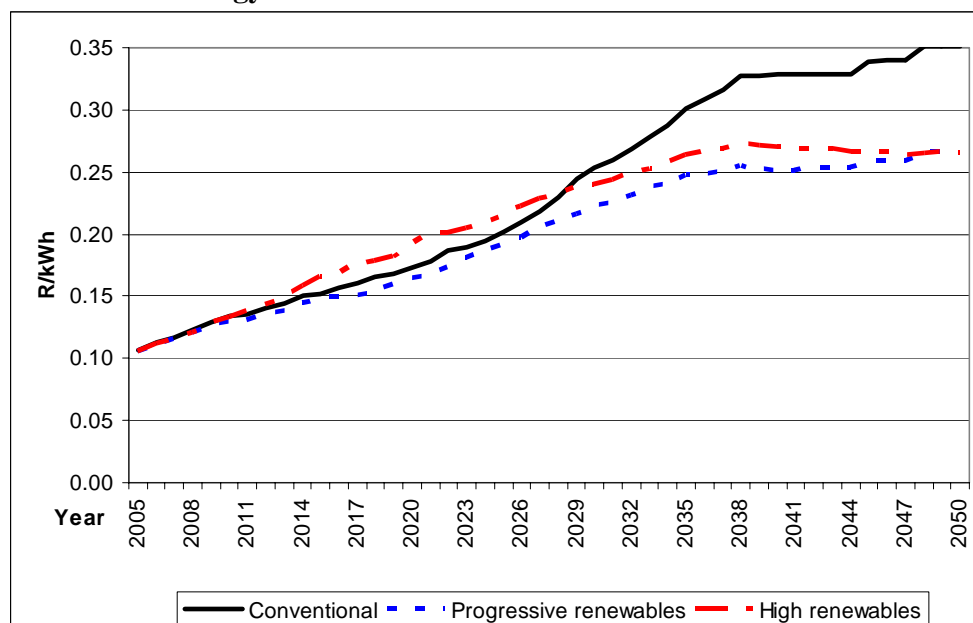
Costs are speculative, relatively little South African applicable data available,. Also, we do not know how prices are going to change in the future. E.g. for PV- has actually seen increase in last 2 years, BUT- JHB University of Technology(RAU) as well as other international players are hopeful to reduce costs by as much as 50 in next year or two! Land fill – probably too low – but not key driver, as total contribution is limited.

If time allows, you can mention that above curves average cost over generation plant installed of different ages.

This can only happen with very substantial investment, but if the level of investment is sufficient, the pay-back will be a lot quicker than any previous models recognise;

- We all know the cost trajectories of new fossil fuel generation (going up) and of large-scale renewable options (coming down) will cross sooner or later –when this happens can be brought forward by a strategic approach to and use of resources; (incl. strictly BATech)
- GEF must not become a channel for or legitimise new subsidies to fossil fuels – development of so-called ‘clean coal technologies’ must be financed by the fossil fuel industries

Unit costs of energy – all scenarios



Cost per kWh – note renewables end up being cheaper given our assumptions.

Note: this is controversial – some argue will not be cheaper – depends on how much fossils increase. Probably as much if not more uncertainty about fossil price increases as there is about renewable energy price decreases. At least once Renewables installed- price is effectively fixed. Note- ignore differences in first few years – in sufficient accuracy in data. However, note that during early years, RE may cost quite a bit, but its impact on average price is small, because it contributes such a low percentage of the total

Table 7.4: Fuel combustion CO₂ emissions by intensity and per capita, 2000
Source: IEA (2002)

	CO ₂ /cap (tons/capita)	CO ₂ /GDP (kg/1995 US\$)	CO ₂ /GDP PPP (kg/1995 PPP\$)
South Africa	6.91	1.73	0.79
Africa	0.86	1.16	0.43
Non-OECD	2.24	1.73	0.64
OECD	11.10	0.45	0.51
World	3.89	0.69	0.56

Key: PPP = purchasing power parity, GDP = Gross domestic product

- The GEF has to look beyond business plans, to do extensive outreach and investigation amongst civil society; empower and support networking and support inclusive meetings that bring all the stakeholders into a single forum, where we can interrogate each other ...
- We must all think ahead and recognise the urgency of taking climate action

Conclusion

A Just Transition to Sustainable Energy is possible for employment creation and poverty reduction, through Integrated Energy Planning –full cost-benefit analysis

A forward-looking policy agenda – national and international (not waiting for/dependent on Northern finance) with an Energy services approach, incl. needs and benefits based pricing, if there is clear political will supported by global finance.

TURNING POLICY INTO REALITY: FROM THE GROUND UP IN CLIMATE CHANGE THE EGYPTIAN NGO MODEL

Dr. Emad Adly

Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED)- Egypt

Climate Change in Egypt

- Egypt is highly vulnerable to Climate Change impacts and could severely affected specially in the delta and the narrow valley where most of the population
- Egypt is the second most populous country in Africa. Its population is over 70 million and is growing at 1.66% per year
- Egypt is highly vulnerable to Climate Change impacts and could severely affected specially in the delta and the narrow valley where most of the population
- Egypt is the second most populous country in Africa. Its population is over 70 million and is growing at 1.66% per year

The NGOs Strategy and the Climate Change

- Sustainable Models
- MDG 7 is an entry point with relation to poverty and women issues
- Downstream Upstream Downstream approach
- Enhance partnerships among stakeholders
- A strong impact of the SGP to support the NGOs in meeting the challenges since it was launched in 1992

The GEF/ SGP in Egypt

- The Country Programme Strategy of the SGP emphasizes on linking the Global Benefits to the poor at the local level and provides them with sustainable solutions to their social and economic problems

The GEF/ SGP efforts in Energy

- The NGO-SGP experience was able to provide technologies to minimize the economic burden on the dwellers and to diminish the CO2 emissions by using an alternative to fossil oil or other conventional energy sources

Methodology

- The process was developed on a model of partnership between the Communities, NGOs, Private Sector, Government Authorities and SGP
- Enhancing a financial mechanism that could deviate the private sector of only dealing with those who can afford to buy the technology to the poor who are not able to acquire it.
- The Revolving Fund Model is adopted.
- Capacity Building in all the activities of the project to ensure a smooth dialogue, effective partnership and a sustainable project.
- C.B is provided to all the partners of the projects.
- Investing in the projects elements that will lead to achieve changes at the policy level.
- The objective of replicability and extending the benefits to more beneficiaries is an important crucial one.

- Deriving the lessons from which we could learn how to develop more projects to help more beneficiaries and to achieve more Global Benefits.

Types of the projects

- Energy Efficiency Projects
- Non - motorized transport
- Solar Heaters
- Developed Gas Ovens
- Recycling of Agriculture Wastes
- Biogas Projects
- Charcoal Kilns
- Energy Efficiency Projects
- Non - motorized transport
- Solar Heaters
- Developed Gas Ovens
- Recycling of Agriculture Wastes
- Biogas Projects

Thank You

**CITIZENS UNITED FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY
(CURES) --- www.cures-network.org**

Annie Sugrue: South Africa Co-Ordinator, CURES

RE versus fossil fuel

<u>Technology</u>	<u>jobs/TWh</u>
Biodiesel	16 318
SWH	8733
Bioethanol	3770
Biogas	1341
RETs	952
Coal	700
Gas	130
Nuclear	70

Earthlife Africa/SECCP report 2003

JOB CREATION IN RE

Biofuels: B15, E15 – 180 000
SWH: 118 400 (2.8m2 on each home)
Biogas: 1150 for 150 000 digestors
RETs/electricity generation: 36 400 for
15% of the total generation

Total direct: 500 000
Indirect: 700 000

Earthlife Africa/SECCP report 2004

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?

FEASIBLE ---AFFORDABLE--BENEFICIAL

POLITICAL WILL

Target: 10 000 GWh by 2013

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

R2 billion nuclear
50Kwh basic free electricity grant
R14.2 million RE

REQUIREMENT

R1.2 billion

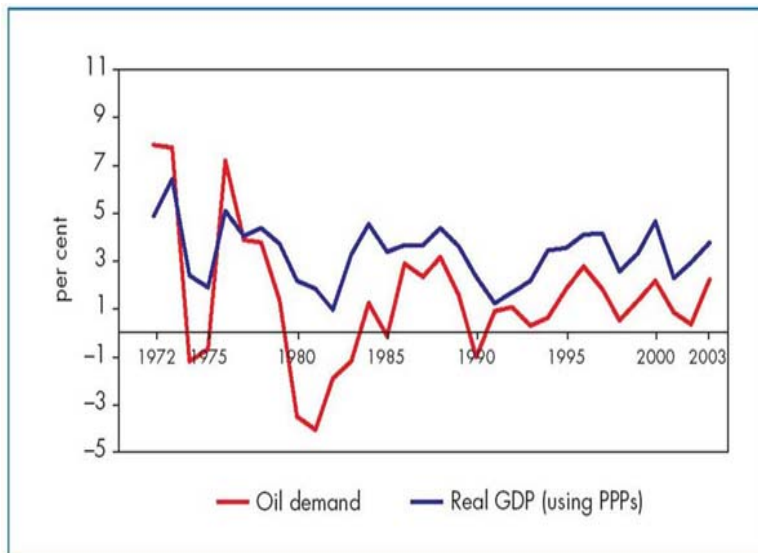
DEMAND

R162 million applicants
>R500 million total

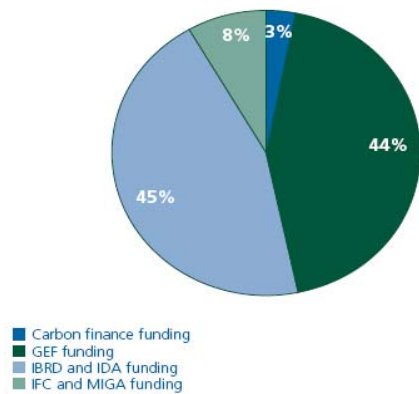
TOOLS

- FEED IN TARRIFF
- FINANCE
- PRINCIPLE
- SELF RELIANCE

Link between oil demand and GDP



World Bank Group Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Financing By Source FY 2005



	Renewable Energy (in millions US\$)	Energy Efficiency (in millions US\$)
IBRD	92.7	0.0
IDA	14.9	1.6
Special finance (IBRD-IDA)	0.0	0.1
GEF	58.5	47.5
Carbon finance	3.8	4.3
IFC	10.7	0.6
IFC-Netherlands Carbon Facility	0	8.9
MIGA	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	180.6	63

Biofuels Adaptation = development

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY: A SOUTHERN PERSPECTIVE

Djingué Nanasta, Programme Manager

Energy Environment Development Programme - Enda

Context

1. Climate change:

- Most important global threat
- Low global GHG emissions in Africa
- Africa is the most vulnerable continent

2. Energy:

- Huge fossil fuel consumption in North 7.5-9 tep/p
- Huge energy needs in South (Africa) 0.3-0.6 tep/p
- Record price highs put global energy security at risk

3. Two pressing poverty issues

ENDA's Energy and Poverty Survey / Climate and development studies

Energy Security Challenge

- How to meet energy consumption needs in Sub-Saharan Africa?
- How the world poor can access energy?
- How to fight poverty and promote long-term development in context of high fossil fuel prices?

Crucial questions:

1. How to increase energy consumption to boost development in a sustainable way?
2. What can be the basis of sustainable energy strategies?

Climate Security Challenge

How to ensure climate security and meet the huge energy needs for survival?

Need for new development paradigm for SSA

- Promote energy efficiency and diversification
- of energy sources (pro-poor renewable energy and low-carbon energy)
- Facilitating adaptation
- Promote mitigation (desertification and land degradation)
- Build public awareness to CC

From Policy to Reality: ENDA's Fourfold Approach

- Identifying climate-friendly development pathways E.g. Development First
- Widening Access to Energy Services for the poor
E.g. AREED Partnerships
- Promoting Improved energy efficiency for SMEs

- E.g. ENEFEBIO
- Harnessing institutional capabilities at policy level **E.g. ECOWAS**

From Policy to Reality (2) At Global Level: Going beyond current initiatives

- Need for a comprehensive international climate and energy security plan
- Need for effective adaptive mainstream policies
- Need for clean technology and energy-saving measures

**THANK YOU
ENDA**

<http://energie/enda.sn>

enda.energy@sentoo.sn

PEACE PARKS FOUNDATION -GLOBAL SCALE: A CONTINENTAL MODEL CURBING THE THREAT TO BIODIVERSITY

Professor Willem Van Riet - Chief Executive Officer of Peace Parks Foundation, South Africa

Peace Parks Foundation facilitates the establishment of transfrontier conservation areas (TFCAs) (peace parks) and develops human resources, thereby supporting sustainable economic development, the conservation of biodiversity and regional peace and stability.

Presentation Outline

- Origins & Background of PPF
- Peace Parks in southern Africa
- PPF Policy and Political Approach
- PPF Technical Capabilities

Today there are 169 potential peace parks covering 113 countries. Africa has 21% of the world's land mass and 10% of its people. Peace parks Foundation is endeavouring to secure much of that space for transfrontier development.

SPACE

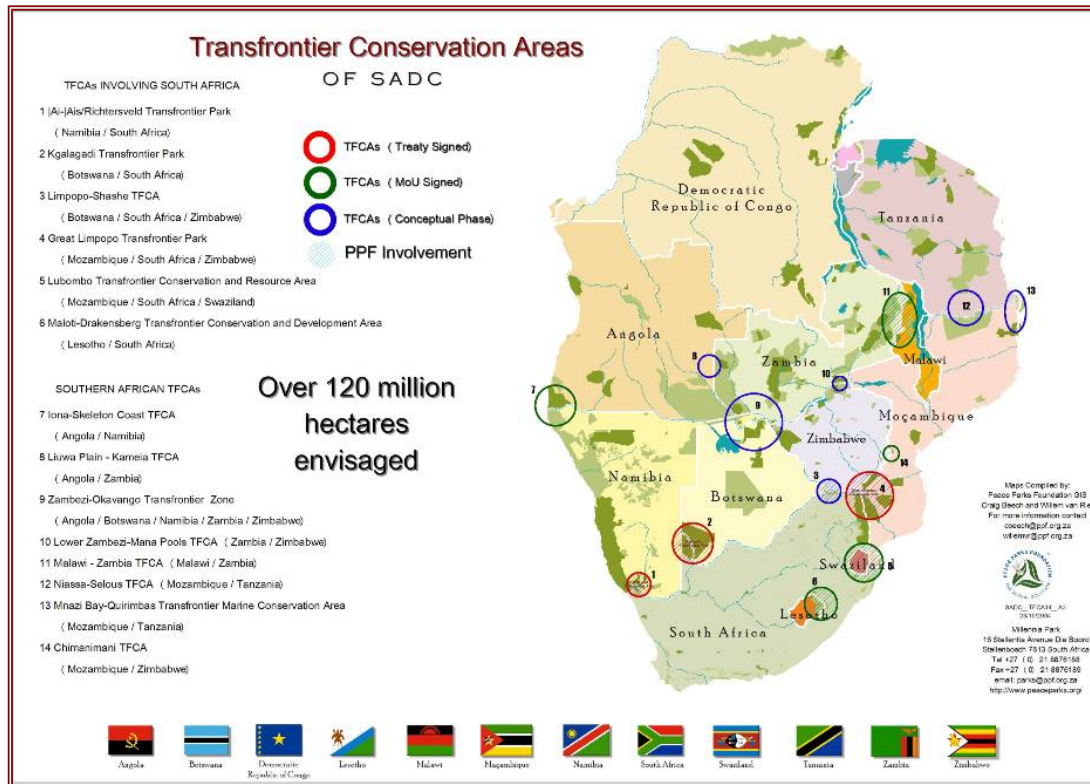
In southern Africa, 14 potential peace parks have been identified. Six of these have already been established and others are in the final stages of development.

- To promote the establishment of TFCAs, the protection of biodiversity & conservation as a form of land use.
- The development of rural communities through conservation & ecotourism.
- To develop Centres of Excellence in Wildlife management, Tourism management and Veterinary research

WHAT IS A TFCA?

“The area or component of a large ecological region that straddles the boundaries of two or more countries, encompassing one or more protected areas as well as multiple resource use areas”.

SADC Protocol on Wildlife Conservation and Law Enforcement



PPF Political Approach

TFCa FACILITATION PROCESS

- PHASE I
 - Political Support (MoU)
- PHASE II
 - Planning & Development (Treaties)
- PHASE III
 - Implementation (Support & Sustainability)

INTERNATIONAL POLICY RESPONSE

Promoting TFCAs as a land use option, through public-private partnership between various stakeholders, who are involved in cross-border activities, and located in and around Transfrontier Conservation Areas

STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT

- Local Communities
- Private Landowners (Conservancies)
- Government authorities
- Conservation agencies, line ministries
- Local and International NGOs,
- Donors
- Involve all stakeholders:
 - political buy-in
 - credibility
 - legitimacy
 - social acceptance

PROCESS FOR ESTABLISHING TFCAs

- Demonstration of political will and support
- Constitution of multi-lateral planning teams
- Signing of MoU
- Appointment of International TFCA Co-ordinator
- Constitution of multi-lateral Committees
- Signing of International Treaty and launching
- JMB and permanent Secretariat
- Implementation

NGO AND DONOR PARTICIPATION

- TFCA process driven by countries
- Role of INGOs, NGOs & Donors are limited to facilitation
- INGOs & Donors to complement each other
- Greater recognition given to Local & Regional NGOs
- Funding TFCA programmes should be Long-Term

TFCAs – POTENTIAL BENEFITS

- Eco-system based management
- Reduce risk of biodiversity loss
- Reintroduction of wildlife
- Joint management of shared resources
- Enhanced nature-based tourism opportunities
- Cost-savings – collaborative efforts
- Assistance from international donors & NGOs

REQUIREMENTS AT NATIONAL LEVEL

- Amend policies, legislation

- Appointment of National TFCA Programme Managers
- Functions envisaged for participating countries:
 - Define stakeholders and important role-players
 - Creation of local / national level support base
 - Define roles of different stakeholders
 - Secure funding to support TFCA development
 - Develop capacity for management of TFCAs
 - Partnerships with other land use sectors

NATIONAL (Biodiversity Action Plans)

Through the management of land-use planning, PPF develops environmental impact assessment models to deal with changes in land-use planning, and the effects on biodiversity

PPF Technical Capabilities

SPATIAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS

- State of the Environment
- Spatial Monitoring & Evaluation
- Change Detection Models
- Protected Areas Coverage & Composition
- Corridors and Linkages

SPATIAL MONITORING & REPORTING

- Protected Areas (coverage & composition)
- Connectivity & Fragmentation
- Species Trends
- Land Cover changes
- Land Use changes

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS

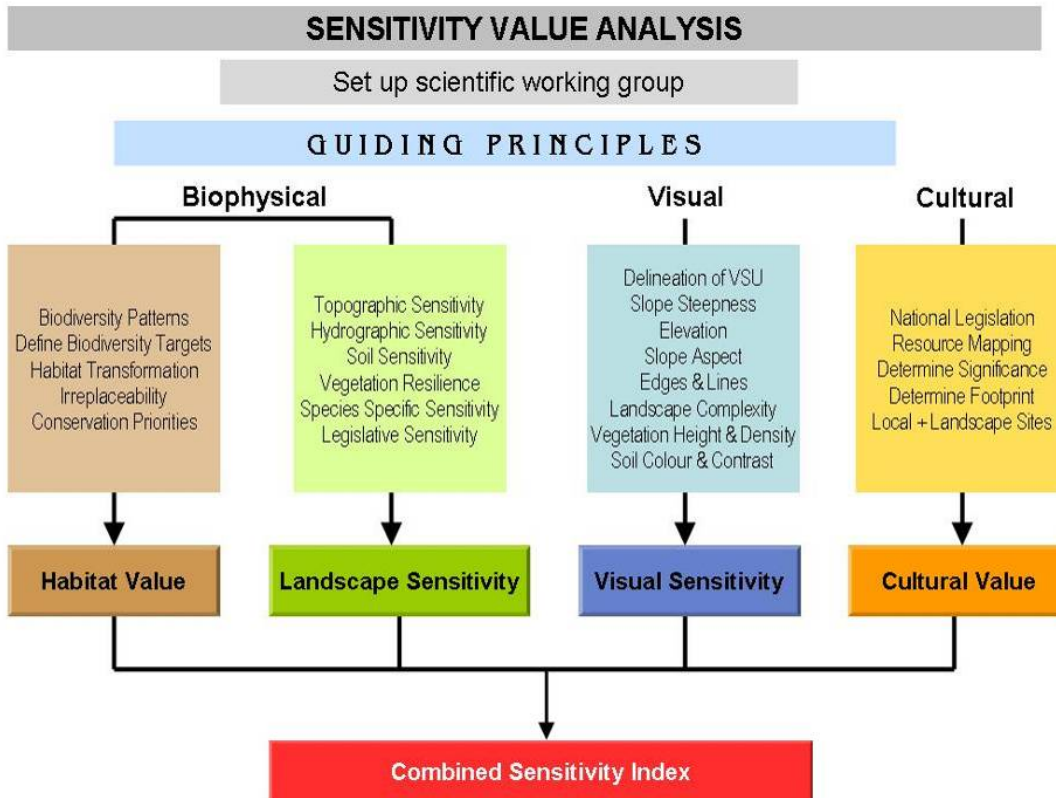
A decision support tool for integrating systematic conservation planning principles and best available biodiversity knowledge into spatial planning for land-user planners in and around TFCAs

Sensitivity Analysis

Landscape Sensitivity
How vulnerable an area is to physical disturbance by human developments

Evaluate in a defensible, transparent and accountable framework

Habitat Value
What does an area contribute to the national / regional conservation estate



- **Planning Objectives**
 - indicating what activities may take place
 - in the different sections of the a TFCA
 - the conservation objectives of those **zones**
- **Designate areas of**
 - pristine, untouched Wilderness
 - robust areas for development of tourism facilities
- **Create an overall spatial plan**
 - Integrated TFCA Zoning Plan

Standardization

- Interoperability of Spatial Processes
- Shared data and information
- Biodiversity and human corridors
- Land Use
- Zonation planning
- Land Suitability Models – shared land use
- Tourism plan
- Management plan

Peace Parks Foundation

In Promoting Regional Cooperation and using Conservation as a vehicle for reducing loss of biodiversity; based on the idea of eco-tourism, and offering an alternative form of land-use for the upliftment of rural communities, Peace Parks are Africa’s gift to the World.

GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN WATER POLICY AND ACTION IN BRAZIL: THE NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL AND PLAN

Marianne Sells- Deputy Director, The Instituto Ipanema

- The Special Secretary of Women Policy has a seat on the National Water Resources Council (seat on one of its Technical Chambers is being negotiated)
- Gender was included among the National Water Resources Plan Major Guidelines

CHALLENGES

The major challenges refer to effective implementation of gender mainstreaming in water policy and management:

- Low representation in water councils and river basin committees
- Low level of capacity of decision-makers and civil society in relation to gender issues

System of Monitoring and Evaluation of the Water Resources Policy Implementation in Brazil (Ministry of Environment, October 2005)

ACTION – Steps Forward

- Work within the National Water Resources Council and its Technical Chambers for the National Water Resources Plan's implementation
- Partnership with the National Special Secretary for Women Policy for the National Women Policies Plan's implementation
- Capacity building and empowerment of decision-makers in the National Water Resources Management System
- Partnership between Cap-Net and GWA for capacity building
- Partnership with Federal Government, Universities, and Private Sector

Capacity Building

- *Training of Trainers (ToT) on Gender Mainstreaming on Integrated Water Resources Management Workshop, GWA, LA-WETnet, Cap-Net, CEF, MMA-SRH, in Penedo, Brazil, November 2003*
- *ToT on Integrated Water Resources Management Workshop, Cap-Net Brasil, PUC-SP, CEF, in São Paulo, Brazil, October 2005*
- *Capacity Building in Rural Environmental Education, Ipanema, Salvea Serra, IMAH Paraíba do Sul River Basin, in Valença, Brazil, February-March 2006*
- *ToT on Integrated Water Resources Management Workshop, Cap-Net Brasil, UnB, ANA, in Brasília, Brazil, June 2006*

Ongoing Project

- Implementation of Ecological Corridor in Selva da Concordia (Atlantic Rain Forest), with cross-cutting actions of capacity building for social inclusion, women and youth empowerment, income generation through agroforestry and other sustainable use of

natural resources, in partnership with other NGOs, local communities, Federal and Municipal Governments, supported by the Ministry of Environment (PDA)

Proposed Projects

- Capacity Building in Gender and IWRM Workshop, in partnership with the Special Secretary for Women Policy
- Gender Mainstreaming in the National Capacity Building and Technological Extension Network in Environmental Sanitation, in partnership with the Ministry of Cities
- Cílios nos Olhos D'Água, reforestation, biodiversity and water conservation, combined with capacity building for income generation through sustainable use of natural resources, under a gender perspective: proposed to Petrobras in June 2006, to be executed in partnership with Cap-Net Brasil, GWA, RMA, IBAMA, UERJ, Emater-RJ, Nova Iguaçu Municipal Government, TeleBrother Informatica, Empresa Nova Gerar, and private land owners

Thank you!

Mariana Sell

Instituto Ipanema – Brazil

<http://www.institutoipanema.net>

<http://pt.genderandwater.org>

<http://www.capnet-brasil.org>

marianasell@institutoipanema.net

CAPACITY STRENGTHENING OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES (LDCS) FOR ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE (CLACC)

**Johannes Chigwada, Programme Manager
ZERO Regional Environment Organization**

LDCs

- The Least Developed Countries (LDCs) consist of around 50 poorest countries in the world based on criteria of:
 - low income
 - human resource weakness and
 - economic vulnerability
- Most of them are in sub-Saharan Africa with some in Asia and some small island countries
- They are a UN recognised sub-group within the G77 and China (developing countries group)

LDCs and Climate Change

- LDCs are recognised in the Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC) as a particularly vulnerable group of countries to the adverse impacts of climate change (both due to their location near the tropics as well as their poverty and low adaptive capacities)
- At COP7 in Marrakech in 2001 the UNFCCC set up the LDC Fund to support the LDCs on adaptation to climate change
- LDC Fund Based on voluntary contributions only and managed by the Global Environment Facility (GEF)
- Used to provide each LDC funding to carry out National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPAs) whose outputs include a prioritised list of adaptation actions for each LDC

CLACC Project

- CLACC aims at strengthening civil society to enable it to participate effectively in climate change initiatives including government led processes such as the National Adaptation Programme of Actions.
- **Objectives**
 - Strengthening the capacity of civil society in LDCs to adapt to climate change and fostering adaptive capacity among the most vulnerable groups.
 - Establishing an information and knowledge system to support countries to deal with the adverse impacts of climate change.
 - Mainstreaming the NAPA process with key non-governmental stakeholders.

CLACC Project Partners

- Coordinating partner: IIED

- **Regional and In-country**

- BCAS, CARITAS, LI-BIRD, RSPN, RDRS for South Asia
- ENDA, AMADE-PELICODE, OFEDI and TEMNIYA for West Africa
- ACTS, SECS, EPMS and DENIVA for East Africa
- ZERO, EECZ, CURE and GED for Southern Africa

Other partners:

- Potsdam Institute for Climate Research (PIK)
- Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)-Oxford
- Centre for Climate and Environment (CICERO)
- London School of Hygiene and Tropical medicine

CLACC Activities

Take place at different levels and includes:

- Action-research and awareness-raising with vulnerable communities in twelve LDCs.
- Engagement with national policy and stakeholder processes, including the NAPAs.
- Engagement with regional level discussions in South Asia, East Africa, West Africa and Southern Africa.
- Engagement with international policy processes including the UNFCCC.

CLACC Activity 1- Fellowship Programme

First CLACC Fellowships awarded in 2004 (each Fellow spent 2 months in 2004 with a host institute):

- Mozaharul Alam from BCAS to IIED, London,
- Salimata Wade from ENDA to SEI, Oxford/IIED
- Johannes Chigwada from ZERO to PIK, Potsdam
- Victor Orindi from ACTS to CICERO, Oslo

Second Round of Fellowships Awarded in 2005 (In-country fellows spent 2 months with their regional partner).

- Aminur Rahman (RDRS); Mizanur Rahman (CARITAS); Bimal Regmi (LIBIRD) and Dago Tshering (RSPN)
→BCAS, Bangladesh.
- Sumaya Zaki Eldeen (SECS); Euster Kibona (EPMS) and Ben Twinomugisha (Uganda) → ACTS.
- Albertina Bambaige (GED); George Kasali (EECZ) and Everhart Nangoma (CURE) →ZERO.
- Sidi Chein (TEMNIYA); Krystel Dossou (OFEDI) and Oumar Sango (AMADE-PELICODE) → ENDA.

CLACC Activity 2- Action Research and Awareness Raising

- In-country research on climate change and human health being carried out in 12 LDCs.
- Initial training workshop held in Kisumu, Kenya between 24 and 28 October 2005 to develop a common methodology.
- Studies focusing on:
 - the most vulnerable groups (both geographically & socio-economically),

- health impacts associated with climatic hazards and,
- ways through which their capacities to deal with climate change impacts may be strengthened.

The “CLACC LDCs”

- Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal in

South Asia

- Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda in

East Africa

- Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia

Southern Africa

- Benin, Mali and Mauritania in

West Africa

Conclusions

- It is expected to strengthen capacity on adaptation to climate change in civil society based institutions in at least 12 LDCs (Nine in Africa)
- The Climate Change and Human Health studies are expected to raise awareness of the most vulnerable communities and other stakeholders in the selected LDCs on adaptation to climate change
- CLACC already has a number of publications on adaptation to climate change by developing countries.

Many of these can be accessed at www.clacc.net

LIFE FOR SALE! ARE MARKETS THE PANACEA FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION? THE NEOLIBERAL APPROACH TO BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES' MARKETS:

Simone Lovera- Campaign Coordinator Global Forest Coalition

- Give biodiversity and other environmental assets a market value
- Let markets do their work
- Requirements:
 - Commodification
 - Privatization
 - Ensuring free trade, locally, nationally and internationally

Main Environmental Services' Markets

- Carbon Trade (Kyoto Protocol)
- Trade in Genetic Resources and related Knowledge (CBD, WIPO, WTO, ITPGR)
- Ecotourism (CBD, CSD, WTO)
- Biodiversity Offsets
- Watershed Services

Private Sector Engagement versus Public Governance

- Corporations, large landholders and large conservation NGOs can surely profit from environmental services' markets
- At the expense of the poor?
- 'Money rules' versus democracy: Do partnerships with industry and rich NGOs undermine democracy? Who decides on country priorities?

“Markets will be effective and equitable”:

- *If* all values are properly accounted for
- *If* they are equitably distributed to the proper “owners”
- *If* the market is properly regulated
- *If* those regulations are effectively enforced
- *If* there is an equal level playing field so that all biodiversity consumers and producers can participate equitably

So what do we do on planet earth?

“Ifs” that tend to be non-existent:

- Economic valuation: Will biodiversity survive on basis of economic incentives only? Does conservation make sense from a purely economic point of view?
- Equitable appropriation of private property rights: Who has the right to own biodiversity? Is biodiversity a “BioNullius” to be colonized?
- Regulations and enforcement: markets tend to replace public governance, not strengthen them
- The Costa Rican experience: carbon and genetic resources markets only developed as a result of government intervention, ODA and other governmental support. As soon as they were left on their own, they proved economically unviable.

More “ifs” that do not exist

- On planet earth, there is no level playing field for biodiversity producers and consumers:
 - Only monetary wealthy consumers are ‘free to choose’
 - Only monetary wealthy producers will be able to compete in the biodiversity market
 - Main victims: Women, Indigenous Peoples, landless farmers, and the monetary poor in general

The role of the World Trade Organization and trade agreements

- Trade agreements undermine or even prohibit social safeguards in the environmental services’ market:
- The liberalization of trade in “ecosystem services” under the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) and similar clauses in bilateral trade agreements (BTAs) imply that giving priority to Indigenous peoples’ and community rights “discriminates” against large corporations
- Public governance is undermined by the non-agricultural market access negotiations: Removing tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade to allow “equal competition” between small producers and large producers
- The privatization of biodiversity and traditional knowledge is facilitated under the Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights Agreement (TRIPs) and similar BTA clauses

Alternatives to neo-liberal approaches

- Reinvent the wheel or improve the GEF?

There is an existing mechanism to provide support to developing countries making extra efforts for the planet

- Rule Corporations or let Corporations Rule?

We need to strengthen democratic public governance instead of undermining it through corporate sponsorship and other dubious partnerships

- NGOs versus Communities?

We need to respect Peoples’ rights and responsibilities and provide public support for community governance, instead of undermining it

Support sustainable, democratic public governance

MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION OF WETLAND BIODIVERSITY OF THE ESTEROS DEL IBERA (MSP UNDP/GEF ARG02-G35)

Dr Miguel Reynal/Dr Maria Leichener

This project which terminated on June 30th 2006 consisted in instituting conservation and management practices and principles in protecting Argentina's, largest 1.3 MM ha. natural wetland reserve. Ibera is considered one of the world's five most important wetlands and is a Ramsar site and Argentina's candidate as a World Heritage site. Ibera is also the only wetland, globally whose hydrological input comes exclusively from rainwater thus ensuring purity and non-contamination. The ecosystem is a very untouched environment where basic ecological functions and a diversity of habitats and ecological niches still exist. Due to this a great variety of fauna roam free although many are now extinct, the area harbors 85 mammalian species, 35 reptiles and 40 amphibians plus 350 bird species. Amongst extinct animals can be counted the jaguar, giant anteater, ocelot, giant otter although important quantities still remain of pampas deer (the America's most endangered deer), marsh deer, red brocket deer, two species of caimans, yellow anaconda, maned wolf, wildcat, armadillo, etc. There are many endemic and endangered bird species, of special note is the Saffron Cowled Blackbird and the Strange tailed Marsh Tyrant, both these species existing nowhere else in the world.

Ibera did not benefit from any comprehensive management conservation strategy. The project has now instituted a number of conservation measures and achievements principal amongst them being a comprehensive and massive awareness and education campaign for the local population, important legislation fostering conservation, capacitating and equipment provision for wardens, promotion of ecotourism, massive public awareness campaign of the wetlands and most importantly a well documented, highly sophisticated Management Plan which involved the three year work of a team of over 40 scientists and technicians, and which covers literally every aspect of managing the Ibera wetland.

Unfortunately critical legislation must still be enacted to insure the permanence of all the care and conservation measures put into place by the project.

There is support for the maintenance of the wetlands in their natural form coming from a well known international NGO Conservation Land Trust dedicated to purchasing wild lands for conservation, also important assistance has been received from Fundacion Ibera, Fundacion Naturaleza para el Futuro, Fundacion Biodiversidad, UNESCO, Fundacion Vida Silvestre Argentina, Ent Bi-Nacional Yacyreta, Probides Uruguay, Direccion de Parques y Reservas, Prov. De Corrientes, INTA, Universidad Nacional del Nordeste, Universidad Nacional de la Plata and many others.

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