

# CBNRM Net

The Community-Based Natural Resource Management Network

The CBNRM Net Newsletter

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## From the editor

This issue includes, among others, the following: An analysis of *CBNRM Net*, a panel proposal for the 2002 IASCP, several networking issues, ditto conferences, seminars and workshops on local-level development and financial management, and new literature.

Further information on several topics in this issue is available on the web site. If you have problems accessing and/or downloading a particular document mentioned in this Newsletter and made available on the web site, write to <mail@cbnrm.net> and request that it be sent via email.

The next issue will, among others, include a Focus on CBNRM and HIV/AIDS.

Lars T Soeftestad, Editor – lars@cbnrm.net

## Membership and organizational issues

**New members.** Boubacar Ba (Education Civique et Gouvernance & IASCP-West Africa; Sévaré, Mopti, Mali), Campfire Association (Harare, Zimbabwe), Lakhsara Mint Dié (GTZ; Nouakchott, Mauritania), Upendra Gautam (Farmer Managed Irrigation Systems Promotion Trust; Kathmandu, Nepal), John Hall (France), Thea Hilhorst (International Institute for Environment and Development; Edinburgh, UK), Isselmou A Kader (Nouakchott, Mauritania), Shadi Kanfi (Bellanet International Secretariat; Ottawa, Canada), M Jorge Leon (Association of Mountain Populations of the World; Quito, Ecuador), Bridget McBean (The MELISSA Program, World Bank; Pretoria, South Africa), Namibia Nature Foundation (Windhoek, Namibia), Stephan Neu (GTZ; Nouakchott, Mauritania), Vincent A Ndangang (Korup National Park Project; Cameroon), Boipuso Nkwae (Dept of Geodesy and Geomatics, Land Studies Group, University of New Brunswick; Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada), Thomas Oberthur (CIAT; Cali, Colombia), Eileen Omosa (Forest Action Network; Nairobi, Kenya), Prachandra Pradhan (Farmer Managed Irrigation Systems Promotion Trust; Kathmandu, Nepal), Hanta Rabetaliana (Association of Mountain Populations of the World; Fianarantsoa, Madagascar), Dilys Roe (International Institute for Environment and Development; London, UK), Gerd R Ruecker (Ecology and Resource Management, Center for Development Research; Bonn, Germany), Papa Sene (CLUSA; Accra, Ghana), Sheona Shackleton (Rhodes University; Grahamstown, South Africa), Thomas Sommerhalter (GTZ, Mauritania), Rajan Subedi (Farmer Managed Irrigation Systems Promotion Trust; Kathmandu, Nepal), TerraNet (Indonesia), Eric Tielkes (Center for Agriculture in the Tropics and Subtropics, University of Hohenheim; Stuttgart, Germany), Michael Victor (Regional Community Forestry Training Center for Asia and the Pacific; Bangkok, Thailand), and Greg Young (Rural Development Trust Fund; Russia), Vivienne Wee (Engender; Singapore).

[Ed. comment: The Register of Members is at <[www.cbnrm.net/members/register.html](http://www.cbnrm.net/members/register.html)>.]

**Mailing list and changes in email addresses.** Remember to write to <mail@cbnrm.net> to inform about changes in email address.

**Web site: New material.** New knowledge is added continually, including links, conferences and workshops, publications, and documents for downloading. New knowledge can be located in

various ways: (1) the Newsletters, (2) the 'News' page, (3) date for last update (located at the end of all pages), and (4) the site search engine.

Web site: An analysis. At the 24th Information Systems Research Seminar in Scandinavia (Ulvik in Hardanger, Norway, 11-14 August 2001), Lars Soeftestad presented a paper on *CBNRM Net* and its web site, under the title "Aligning needs and means. On culture, ICT, and knowledge in development cooperation."

*Abstract:* Using *CBNRM Net* and its goal of building a global online community of practice for the CBNRM community of practice as a case study, the paper takes an interdisciplinary view on the societal role of Information and Communication Technology (ICT). The paper points to some limitations connected with culture and knowledge inherent in the emphasis on ICT in development cooperation. The technological optimism that fuels the ICT side of the argument must be aligned with the humanist side, representing values and cultures. The goal is to present the elements of a broad and result-oriented knowledge management approach. This will enable a more realistic assessment of the incentives and constraints in using ICT in development cooperation, thus aligning the needs at the local level with the ICT means at disposal.

*Comments and evaluation:* The anonymous reviewers and the discussants found this very interesting. However, as the network and web site are still in a pilot phase, they thought that it was a bit premature to evaluate it. One argument that was voiced by several people, was that the cultural variability in how people in different cultures learn should infuse a discussion of how to apply ICT optimally in the area of CBNRM, and, more generally, how to do CBNRM capacity building within a diffused horizontal network like *CBNRM Net* and the community of practice that it serves.

Paper (PDF format): [http://www.cbnrm.net/library/files/soeftestad\\_001.pdf](http://www.cbnrm.net/library/files/soeftestad_001.pdf)  
URL (IRIS24 workshop web site): <http://iris24.ifi.uib.no/>

Collaboration on a panel for the 2002 IASCP conference. A proposal for a panel on traditional resource management, land registration, GIS and legal reform in the Sahel has been submitted to the organizers of the June 2002 biennial IASCP conference. Submitted by GTZ, GLIN and NASA, *CBNRM Net* and the World Bank are partners to it. Experiences from Mauritania, as well as from other Anglophone and Francophone countries in West Africa will be presented.

[Ed Comment: The process of preparing the panel, as well as any follow-up activities, will be documented on the web site. Currently the panel proposal is available (in English and French.)

URL: <http://www.cbnrm.net/resources/special/>

## Networking

[Ed. comment: These are exciting times. People are increasingly talking together across various boundaries and exchanging experiences and knowledge. Learning is taking place, and closer contact between CBNRM practitioners are being established. There is, in particular, evidence that CBNRM stakeholders are talking increasingly to each other across the divides between the public sector, the private sector and civil society. The items that follow aim to further the networking and knowledge sharing aspect of *CBNRM Net's* work.]

Burkina Faso: GRAF. GRAF Newsletter no 8 and no 8 Supplement has recently appeared.

URL: <http://www.citeweb.net/graf>

Asia: GEDNET. The Gender, Environment, and Development Network (GEDNET Asia), was initiated by the Center for Environment, Gender, and Development, Singapore, and is sponsored by IDRC. GEDNET Asia is the result of an informal network of researchers working on critical issues related to the environment, gender, and development in the Asia/Pacific region.

The aim of GEDNET Asia and its current two-year work program is to help make current development processes more gender equitable, environmentally sustainable, and economically viable. Two of its key projects are: The "Technology and environment project" in Chiang Mai Province in northern Thailand, and the "Gender, food, and community-based natural resource management project" in Bhutan, India and Tibet.

[Ed. comment: For details on the latter project see section 'Projects'.]

Contact: Vivienne Wee – [engender@pacific.net.sg](mailto:engender@pacific.net.sg)

Stakeholder information system: Call for contributions to a CD-ROM. The objective is to generate a user-friendly CD-ROM on stakeholder analysis with special reference to applied research on the challenges of natural resource management, including conflict management.

The tool will emphasize actor-driven methodologies and offer a broad menu of stakeholder analysis techniques, using a sliding scale approach that may be adapted to various levels of applied NRM research. It will include academic articles written on the subject matter and illustrative material (in English, French, and Spanish), drawing on experiences and approaches in stakeholder analysis from various regions of the world. A book on stakeholder theory, analysis and practice and a web site will accompany the CD-ROM.

*CBNRM Net* members are invited to contribute fully authored articles or short case studies illustrating the use of stakeholder analysis in your own field, to appear in the CD-ROM. Material already published can be submitted, provided that information about the publication is included, and that permission is obtained from the publisher. Suggestions regarding hyperlinks to be added to the web site are also welcome.

[Ed. comment: The requester is faculty member at Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada. The work is supported by IDRC.]

Contact: Jacques Chevalier – [jacques\\_chevalier@carleton.ca](mailto:jacques_chevalier@carleton.ca)  
URL: <http://www.carleton.ca/~jchevali/STAKEH.html>

Southern Africa: CIDA report on land issues. A background study on 'land' and 'land administration issues' in Southern Africa for CIDA is being prepared. CIDA wants to understand the land issues currently facing the region, including any capacity building issues, to guide future activities.

[Ed Comment: The requester is PhD candidate at University of New Brunswick, Canada. In connection with finalizing the report some information is still needed, prepared in the form of a questionnaire.]

Contact: Boipuso Nkwae – [boipuso@aol.com](mailto:boipuso@aol.com)

## **Conferences, Seminars and Workshops**

Workshop on a virtual university for environmental sustainability. The workshop, which took place in Arendal, Norway, 23-25 April 2001, addressed the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) towards training and capacity building on issues of relevance for sustainable environmental development.

[Ed. comment: This workshop is of special interest to *CBNRM Net*, which relies strongly on application of ICT to further networking between stakeholders in the CBNRM global community of practice.]

URL: <http://www.grida.no/inf/news/news01/news30.htm>

Southern Africa: Land reform and conflict management. The Economic and Social Institute of the Free University Amsterdam, supported by a grant from the United States Institute of Peace, presents a full-day symposium on: "Land reform and conflict management in Southern Africa," in Washington DC, USA, 22 October 2001.

The symposium approaches its theme through analyses of historical and more recent experience of land reform and land-related issues in Zimbabwe. Eight speakers will present a rich set of contextual and empirical papers that draw upon a unique body of long-term collaborative research in Zimbabwe.

[Ed. comment: The Announcement can be downloaded from the *CBNRM Net* web site.]

URL (general): <http://www.usip.org>; URL (Announcement): <http://www.cbnrm.net/resources/events/>  
Contact: Bill Kinsey – [bkinsey@econ.vu.nl](mailto:bkinsey@econ.vu.nl)

Farmer Managed Irrigation Systems in changing context. The Farmer Managed Irrigation Systems Promotion Trust will organize a seminar on Farmer Managed Irrigation Systems (FMIS), in Kathmandu, Nepal, 18-19 April 2002.

The objective is to share ideas, experience and information on the fast changing context of FMIS. The FMIS context is influenced by changes in the local social systems, in the national and international economic environment, and in the natural resource base including overall water scarcity. The development of pluralistic societies and self-governance has also played a role in the changed FMIS context. Two factors have come out prominently: (1) the necessity of

undertaking integrated water resource management (IWRM) so that the scarce resource is better utilized across the sectors, and (2) the recognition of the role of the individuals and communities for autonomous and decentralized water resource management. The recognition of the role of the individuals and communities in water resources management has brought to the fore the question of water as a basic human right.

[Ed. comment: The Announcement can be downloaded from the *CBNRM Net* web site.]

URL (Announcement): <http://www.cbnrm.net/resources/events/>  
Contact: Prachandra Pradhan – [pradhanp@mos.com.np](mailto:pradhanp@mos.com.np)

The Association of Mountain Populations of the World (AMPW). Regional workshop for Africa, Fianarantsoa, Madagascar, 21-28 May 2002.

[Ed. comment: Local communities, NGOs and representatives from research institutes from Central Africa, East and South Africa are invited to participate. The Announcement can be downloaded from *CBNRM Net*, see URL below. The workshop is a preparation for the world meeting of AMPW in 2002 (see next item).]

URL (Announcement): <http://www.cbnrm.net/resources/events/index.html>  
Contact: Hanta Rabetaliana – [pschachenmann@ds.mg](mailto:pschachenmann@ds.mg)

The Association of Mountain Populations of the World (AMPW). World conference, Quito, Ecuador, 20-24 September 2002.

URL (Announcement): <http://www.cbnrm.net/resources/events/>  
Contact: M Jorge Leon – [cedime@ecuanex.net.ec](mailto:cedime@ecuanex.net.ec)

## News

World Bank to pay more attention to environment. In the future the World Bank wants to abolish the prejudice that developing countries cannot afford sustainable economic growth. The World Bank's board recently endorsed a new strategy that should integrate environmental concerns in the projects and programs of the World Bank.

The Bank has determined three objectives. First of all it wants to improve people's quality of life and health and protect them against negative environmental affects. Second, the growth policy shall gain new qualities: a provident environment policy ought to become part of public and private aid programs. Third, it wants to protect the climate, forests, watercourses and diversity of species in the Third World. This strategy is supposed to guarantee that economic growth is not at the expense of people's health.

The World Bank found out that developing countries worry more and more about the destruction of the environment and its effects on their health and the resulting interference of the economic growth. Five to six million people die every year in the Third World as a consequence of polluted water and air. According to the Bank, pollution of the environment in many developing countries costs four to eight percent of GDP.

By now, the World Bank has supported environmental projects with \$18 billion, which is more than its present credit volume. The environmental strategy should be aligned with the needs of recipient countries. One of the lessons learned is that the protection of the environment is an integral part of development policy and not abstract aid.

Source: Handelsblatt (Germany), as reported in World Bank Press Review, 24 July 2001

World Bank agrees to further disclosure. The World Bank has agreed to disclose more about its lending to developing nations, but has stopped well short of the openness demanded by anti-globalization protesters and other critics. The World Bank's board of directors is prepared to approve a disclosure policy that would make public more internal documents related to such sensitive activities as infrastructure projects and economic reforms in poor nations.

A number of groups opposed to the role large corporations and international institutions play in the world economy have pressured the World Bank to divulge more information. World Bank officials recognizes that the disclosure policy is an important step in an ongoing, evolving process, and transparency is crucial to development effectiveness, and they hope releasing more information may clear up what they see as misconceptions about its activities.

The new policy is the latest step in a broad effort over the past decade to improve the institution's transparency. In 1994, the World Bank began an extensive release of reports, documents and data that had once been kept private concerning its loans and projects in

developing countries, which finance road construction, education, health programs, and other such initiatives aimed at fostering economic growth and reducing poverty. In one of the most significant measures, the World Bank agreed to publish – prior to approval by its board – drafts of its Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers, which are comprehensive plans to promote economic growth and attack poverty.

The Bank's shareholders are sovereign governments, some of which are ill disposed to transparency. In addition, some World Bank documents could sway currency and securities markets, an eventuality that many in the World Bank see as reason to tightly control the timing and nature of its announcements.

Mobilization for Global Justice, an NGO umbrella group, includes total transparency among their demands. Much of the pressure for greater transparency at the World Bank has come from the USA government and other members of the Group of Seven major industrial nations, while much of the resistance has come from developing countries that are loath to disclose sensitive information about their economies.

Source: Wall Street Journal and Washington Post, as reported in World Bank Press Review, 6 September 2001

## Activities and interventions

Niger: Community-driven development and financial management. The World Bank's community-driven development (CDD) projects in Africa are recognized to have weaknesses in decentralized financial management (FM). In this connection a study on decentralized financial management in the Niger portfolio has been undertaken (for citation see section 'Literature', item "Niger benchmarking study"; the study can be downloaded from *CBNRM Net*, see URL below). Weak financial management capacity and lack of internal audits in the Niger CDD portfolio are widespread. An increasing number of projects are, however, using these principles. The study aimed to take stock of existing decentralized FM practices in existing and planned CDD projects, and to make practical recommendations for strengthening decentralized FM in this portfolio.

[Ed. comment: The World Bank's CDD projects in Africa are of interest for CBNRM because they emphasize and promote community-driven development (at a later juncture, it may be useful to look more closely at the differences, similarities and experiences of these two agendas). For now, it suffices to point out that CBNRM can learn from the emphasis given to decentralized FM in the Africa CDD portfolio, an issue that so far has been given too little emphasis within CBNRM. The report points to two predominant themes that are of particular interest in this connection: (1) decisions concerning community-based FM must be based upon a rigorous assessment of communities' abilities to manage funds, and (2) training is critical. The report argues that empowering communities to manage their own development means strengthening their capacity for diagnosis, planning and consensus-building, and the most significant deficiency in decentralized FM appears to be a lack of training for local people and for community development facilitators.]

URL: <http://www.cbnrm.net/library/documents/>  
Contact: Daniel Sellen – [dsellen@worldbank.org](mailto:dsellen@worldbank.org)

## Projects

Bhutan, India and Tibet: Gender, food and CBNRM project. This project focuses on research into women's indigenous knowledge on the use of soils, plants, and animals to meet household needs, and on women's role as resource managers and livelihood providers.

[Ed. comment: This is a project of GEDNET Asia. See section 'Networking' for details and contact information.]

## Tools

Digital Library of the Commons (DLC). A collaborative project of the Workshop in Political Theory & Policy Analysis and the Digital Library Program, both at Indiana University, USA, DLC is a gateway to the international literature on common property resources.

URL: <http://dlc.dlib.indiana.edu>  
Contact: Laura Wisen – [lwisen@indiana.edu](mailto:lwisen@indiana.edu)

## Literature

[Ed. comment: This section includes key CBNRM-related literature, new and old, published and gray. Documents submitted by members and made available for downloading on the *CBNRM Net* web site are routinely listed here. Most documents included can be downloaded from the *CBNRM Net* web site (to locate documents use the web site search engine). Some of the documents listed are reviewed, discussed, or otherwise mentioned elsewhere in this Newsletter.]

Agrawal, Arun and Clark Gibson, eds. 2001. *Communities and the environment: Ethnicity, gender, and the state in community-based conservation*. Rutgers University Press. ISBN 0-8135-2914-X

Benjaminsen, Tor A and Christian Lund, eds. n.d. Politics, property and production in the West African Sahel. Understanding natural resources management. Uppsala, Sweden: Nordic Africa Institute. ISBN 91-7106-476-1.

URL: <http://www.nai.uu.se/webbshop/ShopSE/index.html>  
Email: [orders@nai.uu.se](mailto:orders@nai.uu.se)

Centre for Energy, Petroleum and Mineral Law and Policy (CEPMLP).

[Ed. comment: This web site includes several PhD and LLM theses on, among others, aspects of Sharia law as it applies to natural resource management.]

URL: <http://www.dundee.ac.uk/cepmlp/main/welcome.htm>

German Foundation for International Development. 1999. Proceedings of the international workshop on "Collective action, property rights and devolution of natural resource management", Puerto Azul, Philippines, 21-25 June 1999. Organized by CGIAR's System-wide Program for Collective Action and Property Rights (CAPRI) and Food and Agriculture Development Centre (ZEL) of the German Foundation for International Development (DSE).

URL: <http://www.capri.cgiar.org/status.asp#devolution>  
Email: [M.DiGregorio@cgiar.org](mailto:M.DiGregorio@cgiar.org)

International conference on "Policy and institutional options for the management of range-lands in dry areas," Hammamet, Tunisia, 6-11 May 2001.

URL: <http://www.capri.cgiar.org/status.asp#rangeland>

Kanyinga, Karuti. n.d. *Re-distribution from above: The politics of land rights and squatting in coastal Kenya*. Research Report no 115. Uppsala, Sweden: Nordic Africa Institute. ISBN 91-7106-464-8

URL: <http://www.nai.uu.se/webbshop/ShopSE/index.html>  
Email: [orders@nai.uu.se](mailto:orders@nai.uu.se)

McCarthy, Nancy, Abdul Kamara and Michael Kirk. 2001. *The effect of environmental variability on livestock and land-use management: The Borana Plateau, Southern Ethiopia*. EPTD Discussion Paper no 75. Environment and Production Technology Division (EPTD) at IFPRI.

URL: <http://www.capri.cgiar.org/status.asp#devolution>  
Email: [ifpri@cgiar.org](mailto:ifpri@cgiar.org)

Moyo, Sam. 2000. *Land reform under structural adjustment in Zimbabwe: Land use change in the Mashonaland Provinces*. Uppsala, Sweden: Nordic Africa Institute. ISBN 91-7106-457-5

URL: <http://www.nai.uu.se/webbshop/ShopSE/index.html>  
Email: [orders@nai.uu.se](mailto:orders@nai.uu.se)

Otsuka, Keijiro and Frank Place, eds. n.d. Land tenure and natural resource management: A comparative study of agrarian communities in Asia and Africa. Published for International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) by the Johns Hopkins University Press.

URL: <http://www.ifpri.org/pubs/jhu/landtenurenrm.htm>

World Bank. 2001. Niger benchmarking study: Harmonizing decentralized financial management. By Neighbor Hope. Washington DC: Africa Rural Development, World Bank. Draft, 31 July 2001.

[Ed. comment: See story in section 'Activities and interventions'].

URL: [http://www.cbnrm.net/library/f/niger\\_003\\_cdd\\_benchmarking.pdf](http://www.cbnrm.net/library/f/niger_003_cdd_benchmarking.pdf) & *CBNRM Net*