

CBNRM Net

The Community-Based Natural Resource Management Network

The CBNRM Net Newsletter

Number 15, November 2001

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From the editor

This issue includes, among others, the following: A Focus on global economic and political changes and CBNRM, a presentation of a new web site (this will be a recurring feature, appearing in section 'Networking'), several Networking pieces (some in both English and French), an E-Discussion on participatory conservation, and a new Initiative in Mauritania on participatory environmental legislation. Thanks to Lakhsara Mint Dié for the French translations.

Further information on several topics in this issue is available on the web site (use the web site search engine to locate information). If you have problems accessing 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.

As I will be traveling in December and January, there will not be a December issue. I will check my emails periodically during this period. The January 2002 issue will appear on time. Be sure to submit your contributions early in order that they can be included!

Lars T Soefftestad, Editor – lars@cbnrm.net

Membership and organizational issues

New members. Imtiazuddin Ahmad (World Bank; Dhaka, Bangladesh), Abdoulaye Alio (C/GRN; Niamey, Niger), Oumarou Amhed (PURNKO/SNV; Niamey, Niger), Vanda Altarelli (FAO/IFAD; Rome, Italy), Karbo Atahirou (C/GRN; Niamey, Niger), Joanna Axford (South Pacific Regional Environment Programme; Vailima, Samoa), Ibrahima Ba (C/GRN; Niamey, Niger), Garba Bohari (PGRN; Tessaoua, Niger), Thérèse Brinkcate (The Green Trust, World Wildlife Fund-South Africa; Die Boord, South Africa), Sarah Burgess (GTZ/Cambodian German Forestry Project, Dept of Forestry and Wildlife; Pnom Penh, Cambodia), Graciele Etchart (Washington Utilities and Transport Commission; Olympia, Washington, USA), Abdou Fall (FRAO; Dakar-Fann, Sénégal), Oscar Forero (Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine; Wye, Kent, UK), Djibo Garba (Cellule Gestion des Ressources Naturelles; Niamey, Niger), Rucha Ghate (Dept of Economics, Nagpur University; Nagpur, India), Karl P Kirsch-Jung (GTZ; Eschboom, Germany), Saidou Koala (ICRISAT; Niamey, Niger), Annick Lachance (Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso), Yaya Madougou (Conseil National de l'Environnement pour un Développement Durable; Niamey, Niger), Isaaka M Magha (SDSA; Niamey, Niger), Tanimoune M Maï (PGRN; Gouré, Niger), Gilbert D Maïzama (PGRN; Dongondoutchi, Niger), Ali Moussa (PGRN; Birni N'Gaouré, Niger), Youssouf N'djore (PNGTER; Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire), Fanny N'Golo (PGPRNF; Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire), André Nonguierna (Centre Régional Agrhymet; Niamey, Niger), Mamadou Ouattara (PNUD; Niamey, Niger), Dennis Panther (USAID; Bamako, Mali), Boulkassim Salifou (PGRN; Say, Niger), Papa Sarr (PGCRN; Hann Dakar, Sénégal), Abdoul W Seini (Banque Mondiale; Niamey, Niger), Om P Sharma (Action for Environment Conservation; Udaipur, Rajasthan, India), Natasha Stacey (Strategic Action Programme for Inter-national Waters, South Pacific Regional Environment Programme; Apia, Samoa), and Hoang Van Son (Biology Faculty, Vinh University; Vinh City, Vietnam).

[Ed. comment: The Register of Members is at <<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 and other contact information.

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. Material for posting should be submitted to <mail@cbnrm.net>.

Recent important updates include: (1) A new section 'Archive', and (2) The Mauritanian "Technology Fosters Tradition" (TFT), a collaboration between GLIN, GTZ, and the World Bank, that appears on the *CBNRM Net* web site in a web hosting arrangement.

Web site: Use statistics for October 2001. *Key statistics:* Visitors - 1,991; Page views - 12,275; Hits - 14,059; Bytes - 272.1 Megabytes.

Page views by selected client domain: Argentina (ar) - 4, Belgium (be) - 9, Bhutan (bt) - 28, Botswana (bw) - 35, Brazil (br) - 2, Brunei (bn) - 2, Chad (td) - 6, Chile (cl) - 2, Costa Rica (cr) - 6, Dominican Republic (do) - 6, Greece (gr) - 2, Hong Kong (hk) - 1, India (in) - 12, Indonesia (id) - 49, Kenya (ke) - 4, Malaysia (my) - 23, Mexico (mx) - 1, Nepal (np) - 2, Pakistan (pk) - 2, Peru (pe) - 1, Philippines (ph) - 7, Poland (pl) - 15, Russian Federation (ru) - 4, Saudi Arabia (sa) - 2, Senegal (sn) - 8, Singapore (sg) - 19, South Africa (za) - 584, Taiwan (tw) - 11, Tanzania (tz) - 2, Thailand (th) - 21, Uganda (ug) - 2, Commercial (com) - 5017, Educational (edu) - 214, Government (gov) - 9, Network (net) - 1900, Non-profit organization (org) - 151.

[Ed. comment: Explanations of the measures used are at <www.cbnrm.net/help.html> and in Newsletter no 14, October 2001. Detailed statistics are at <www.cbnrm.net/support/stats.html>.]

Web site: Use statistics for November 2001. *Key statistics:* Visitors - 2,636; Page views - 21,119; Hits - 26,742; Bytes - 427.7 Megabytes.

Page views by selected client domain: Argentina (ar) - 56, Botswana (bw) - 2, Brazil (br) - 1, Bulgaria (bg) - 4, Cambodia (kh) - 23, Chile (cl) - 2, Costa Rica (cr) - 1, Czech Republic (cz) - 1, Estonia (ee) - 2, Greece (gr) - 5, Hong Kong (hk) - 4, Hungary (hu) - 29, India (in) - 21, Indonesia (id) - 20, Kenya (ke) - 37, Lesotho (ls) - 8, Madagascar (mg) - 1, Malaysia (my) - 1, Micronesia (fm) - 2, Mongolia (mn) - 1, Namibia (na) - 3, New Caledonia (nc) - 1, Nicaragua (ni) - 3, Pakistan (pk) - 8, Peru (pe) - 2, Philippines (ph) - 6, Poland (pl) - 149, Russian Federation (ru) - 2, Samoa (ws) - 32, Saudi Arabia (sa) - 12, Senegal (sn) - 1, Singapore (sg) - 9, Slovenia (si) - 1, South Africa (za) - 230, Tanzania (tz) - 17, Thailand (th) - 12, Trinidad and Tobago (tt) - 2, United Arab Emirates (ae) - 1, Uruguay (uy) - 2, Zambia (zm) - 16, Zimbabwe (zw) - 12, Commercial (com) - 13803, Educational (edu) - 269, Government (gov) - 6, Network (net) - 4266, Non-Profit Organization (org) - 192, Unresolved - 5007.

[Ed. comment: Explanations of the measures used are at <www.cbnrm.net/help.html> and in Newsletter no 14 (October 2001). Detailed statistics are at <www.cbnrm.net/support/stats.html>.]

Mauritania: Technology Fosters Tradition (TFT). *CBNRM Net* is supporting this interesting initiative.

[Ed. comment: See section 'Activities and interventions' for details.]

Focus: Global economy and local CBNRM

It is not too long ago that those touting the preeminence of market economy, including a global self-regulating capitalist system were heard everywhere. Today these new-liberal or new-classical theories on an economy that does best when the state does not interfere seem outdated. The reality of this dawned upon us on 11 September and relegated the last decades of new-liberal economics to a minority position.

However, the downturn in the world economy was already evident, and it can be argued that the 11 September attacks reinforced processes that had been underway for some time. What is most important, however, is how key political actors are reacting to the new situation. While US President Bush, true to the program on which he was elected, talks about channeling funds into the economy, in addition to reducing taxes, there is sign of an increased acceptance of the

State's and the public sector's responsibility vis-à-vis, for example, the private sector and the citizens. The US Government is now increasingly taking a role in developing and structuring the economy that was unheard of in the good times characterized by new-liberal political ideals. Similar tendencies are seen elsewhere, for example, within the European Union.

The world is presently in a crisis of unprecedented proportions. Global poverty has become a threat to peace and stability to us all. There are some precedents for how such situations are best addressed. One is the situation in Europe following the Second World War. The socially anchored economy that emerged in the West in the post-war period was to a large extent based on the insight that poverty nurtures social movements aiming at destroying the established order. Accordingly, to maintain the political and economic legitimacy of the ruling order, it became an overriding priority to come to the aid of all societal groups. Equality, not only in terms of possibilities, but also in terms of outcomes became the post-war period's social compromise in West Europe. The present global poverty should be addressed by a similar economic regime – a globally anchored economy. A precondition for a lasting and stable political economy is that everybody benefits from it.

As argued above, there are signs that this is understood and that the key actors involved may, gradually and not visibly coordinated, move towards this. The WTO trade negotiation is a case in point, at this point in time mostly representing a possibility for such action. The parties involved are well aware of the connection between economic regimes, poverty and social movements. If this realization is brought to bear on the negotiations, we will hopefully see actions that support poor countries benefiting more from changes in the global trade regime. Another example is the growing role for the UN in its various activities related to addressing poverty, reducing conflict and advancing democracy. It is noteworthy that the war in Afghanistan is leading to diplomatic breakthroughs. For example, the UN is playing a key role in reinstalling a legitimate government and coordinating humanitarian aid. UN's growing role legitimizes that the fight against terrorism is governed by an international legal regime and international diplomacy. Taken together, these and other recent events point in the same direction: the world society is finding new ways of cooperating, even against a backdrop of terrorism and global recession (see section 'News', story "UN urges rethink of trickle-down economics").

The framework for these emerging changes is the ongoing and accelerating globalization (see section 'News', story "World Bank urges better use of globalization to help poor people"). It will not be beneficial to people without rules and regulations. This represents yet another reason why the UN's position is so unique. The Nobel peace prize award this month represents an important statement of the important role the UN plays – and will continue to play – in managing globalization.

At the same time, the recent global events are striking the economies of the developing countries and countries in transition hard (see section 'News', story "Rich countries differ on raising aid to poor countries"). Aid flows appear to be stagnating. At the same time the private sector involvement is increasing, and the civil society and NGOs in borrower countries are increasingly asserting themselves, vis-à-vis the State, the public sector, the international aid regime and the private sector.

How these various factors and processes will play out on the regional, national and local levels is anybody's guess. On a macro level, I would like to think that the globalization and a hopefully emerging socially anchored economy can develop in parallel, support and reinforce each other, and eventually merge. This would represent a historic chance.

On the micro-level – which is what interests us – how these macro-level events and processes will play out, and how they will influence and determine local-level activities within the broad area of CBNRM and associated activities remain to be seen. Several important questions can be formulated, among them: What will the impact on local-level activities be, in particular as regards NRM? Will the balance between the local and national level in co-management arrangements shift, perhaps in the direction of increased degrees of freedom for the local level? How will this affect the role of the private sector, both the local as well as that with links to the outside? Will such changes go hand in hand with changes in the involvement of the State, including the regional and national public sectors? Will a more socially anchored economy lead

to increased interest, on the part of the developed world, of intervention in the global aid and development economy?

What is most important, however, is being aware of these macro-level processes. How can we use such insight to identify, advocate and implement management regimes and solutions that are better suited to achieve both short-term and long-term objectives?

I invite you to consider these issues, as seen from the point of view of your own work and experiences and write about it. Comments can be included in the next Newsletter.

Networking

Vacancies. IUCN is sponsoring two positions in connection with preparing the UN World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in September 2001.

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

West Africa: Participatory environmental legislation. This is a proposal for a panel for the 2002 conference of the International Association for the Study of Common Property (IASCP), in Zimbabwe in June 2002. The panel describes a research-cum-action Initiative in Mauritania, Technology Fosters Tradition (TFT), supported by the Global Legal Information Network (GLIN), the German Technical Development Assistance Organization (GTZ), and the World Bank, to safeguard the Sahelian environment through empowering local people to transform the present exploitation of natural resources into a more efficient and sustainable management model centered on them as key decision makers.

The solution lies in identifying and addressing the needs of the local people. To influence their behavior towards sustainable environmental practices, the TFT starts with an assessment of local practices, tracing and fixing them on maps, and screening for environmental beneficial or harmful effects. Required changes in use patterns would be negotiated with the local people until a consensus agreeable to all parties is reached.

These negotiated behavioral rules will be consolidated in regulations that are: (1) formulated by local people, (2) in their dialect, (3) clear, short and succinct, stating purpose and policy, (4) simultaneously drafted in the official languages of the country, revised and edited in an itinerant process with expert's input, and (5) conform to the objectives of international environmental conventions. The texts will be archived in the Official Gazette and on the Internet (GLIN) and also affixed on a GIS-centered geographic map. The process constitutes a legal reform that gives priority to customary law over transplanted law, thus establishing the basis for a convergence between the actual behavior of the population and the laws and regulations intended to govern such behavior.

[Ed. comment: *CBNRM Net* is supporting this Initiative, and the official home page of the Technology Fosters Tradition (TFT) Initiative is available on the *CBNRM Net* web site in a web hosting arrangement, see section 'Activities and interventions' for details.]

Contact: Hans-Werner Wabnitz – hwabnitz@worldbank.org & Lars T Soeftestad – lssoeftestad@cbnrm.com
URL: <http://www.cbnrm.net/webhosting/>

Afrique de l'Ouest: Législation environnementale participative. Ceci est une proposition de panel à l'occasion de la conférence internationale sur l'étude des propriétés communes (IASCP) qui se tiendra au Zimbabwe en juin 2002. Le thème du panel est une Initiative d'action-cum-recherche en Mauritanie «Technology Fosters Tradition» (Promotion de la tradition à travers la technologie), en court : le TFT. Le TFT est soutenue par le GLIN, la GTZ et la Banque Mondiale, pour sauvegarder l'environnement sahélien en rendant le pouvoir de décision aux populations locales pour qu'elles passent du système d'exploitation des ressources naturelles utilisé actuellement en un modèle de gestion plus efficace et surtout pérenne: Un modèle de gestion centré sur le pouvoir des populations qui auront elles-mêmes à décider.

La solution se trouve dans l'identification des besoins de la population locale. Afin de motiver la population à changer son comportement en vue d'une exploitation des ressources naturelles durables, l'initiative TFT commencera par une évaluation des pratiques locales, les traçant et les fixant sur des cartes et les classifiant selon leurs effets aussi bien bénéfiques que néfastes sur leur environnement. Les changements nécessaires sur les modèles d'utilisation seront négociés avec la population locale jusqu'à ce qu'un consensus soit atteint.

Ces modes d'utilisation négociés seront ensuite consolidés sous forme de réglementations qui seront: (1) formulées par la population locale, (2) dans leurs dialectes, (3) claires, courtes et succinctes, énonçant objectifs et mesures poursuivis, (4) rédigées, révisées et publiées simultanément dans la langue officielle du pays dans un processus itératif incluant le savoir-faire d'experts et (5) ceci conformément aux objectifs des conventions internationales environnementales. Les textes seront archivés dans le Journal Officiel du pays et sur Internet (GLIN). Ils seront aussi accessibles sur une carte géographique (GIS : système de gestion de données géographique). Cette approche constitue une réforme juridique où le droit coutumier prime sur les lois empruntées.

Cette initiative permettra ainsi de bâtir un système qui responsabilisera la population, puisqu'elle aura elle-même eu l'occasion de discuter et définir ses propres lois et ses propres règlements, ces derniers censés améliorer considérablement la gestion des ressources naturelles.

[Ed. commentaires: Le *CBNRM Net* soutient cette initiative et la page web officielle de « Technology Fosters Tradition » (TFT) est disponible sur les site Web de CBNRM. Pour plus de détails, voir « Activités et Interventions ».]

Contact:er: Hans-Werner Wabnitz – hwabnitz@worldbank.org & Lars T Soeftestad – lssoeftestad@cbnrm.com
URL: <http://www.cbnrm.net/webhosting/>

Africa: Networking on NRM. This is a proposal for a panel for the 2002 conference of the International Association for the Study of Common Property (IASCP), in Zimbabwe in June 2002.

Networks have always existed as loose connections of like-minded professionals who communicate, share information and experiences on a regular basis. The development of networking programmes has largely resulted out of the need to concretize relations between individuals, institutions, and programmes and to develop advocacy channels.

The increasing globalization has led to a search for new ways and modes of communicating between people. The advent of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) has, largely, provided an answer to these new communications needs. Networking and networks have, as a result, taken new forms, and have also presented opportunities for 'mushrooming' of networks.

The panel describes networks and specific networking initiatives related to natural resource management that operates in Africa. Based on selected case studies, the panel will illuminate the increasing emphasis on networking between stakeholders on various societal levels, from project and sector to the global level. It aims at shedding light on how they operate, including the constraints and incentives they operate under, and in this way contribute to understanding their present role and impact. The panel aims to initiate a debate on the future role and impact on networks in natural resource management.

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

Afrique: Travail en réseau sur la Gestion des Ressources Naturelles. Ceci est une proposition de panel à l'occasion de la conférence Internationale sur l'étude des propriétés communes (IASCP) en juin 2002 qui se tiendra au Zimbabwe.

Le travail en réseau existe depuis que des professionnels de même convictions communiquent régulièrement pour partager les informations et leurs expériences. Le travail en réseau s'est développé en majeure partie grâce au besoin ressenti de concrétiser des relations entre les individus, les institutions, les programmes et pour renforcer les canaux de plaidoyer.

L'ampleur de la globalisation a fait que de nouvelles méthodes de communications se sont développées entre les personnes. L'utilisation des technologies de l'information et de la communication (TIC) a largement répondu à ces nouveaux besoins de communication et de ce fait le travail en réseau a pris une autre forme et a proliféré.

Le panel décrit le réseau et certaines initiatives de travail en réseau ayant un lien avec la gestion des ressources naturelles présente en Afrique. Le panel se base sur certaines études sélectionnées pour souligner l'importance du travail entre partenaires à tous les niveaux de la société, partant de projet et de secteurs jusqu'au niveau global. Son but est de montrer comment les partenaires travaillent, en prenant en compte les contraintes et les motivations avec lesquels ils opèrent et ainsi, montrer le rôle qu'ils pouvant jouer et l'impact que cette initiative peut

avoir. Le panel vise à initier un débat sur le rôle futur et l'impact du réseau de gestion des ressources naturelles.

Contact: Lars T Soeftestad – lsoeftestad@cbnrm.com Ou Webster Whande – wwande@uwc.ac.za
URL: <http://www/cbnrm.net/resources/specials/>

Featured web site: Indigenous organizations in northwest Amazonia. The web site focuses on a small geographic area along a tributary in the Apaporis river basin in southeastern Colombia, the Yaigojé Resguardo Indigenous Reserve.

The web site, which is a working output of an ongoing research project, addresses the interface of the history and evolving ethnic composition of this Reserve. As a result, the management models of the reserve (referred to as “indigenous territorialization”) have been changing over time, and are still evolving. ACIYA, the local indigenous organization of traditional authorities from Yaigojé, is working with the aim of maintaining and governing the traditional indigenous territories. The web site places this work in a micro-macro political – ostensibly a political ecological – context.

[Ed. comment: Political ecology is used, I gather, in order to understand the present situation as well as help find workable, sustainable and long-term solutions for the management of the reserve. The latter appears to include use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT). I find the use of political ecology particularly interesting and stimulating, all the more so because this inter-disciplinary and cross-over body of work is a fundamental pillar for the approach to CBNRM and to working with CBNRM that drives *CBNRM Net* (including the web site and the Newsletter). As the web site – and research – develops, I gather the political ecology framework will be developed. The brief reference to the (future) use of ICTs in the reserve is also interesting, particularly in the context of a political ecology framework. The web site is, it should be said, a good example of the current stance on the use of ICT in development aid, in that it is hardly aimed at the indigenous peoples living in the Reserve. The rather sophisticated approach to site design is one testimony to this. The double nature of ICTs are clearly evident – on the one side ICTs cause and increase the digital divide and, on the other hand, ICTs are touted as the final solution to connecting everybody and everything, thus doing away with the digital divide. These issues are discussed in earlier *CBNRM Net* Newsletters and several places on the web site, and will, in connection with developing a CBNRM knowledge management and sharing system, continue to remain a key focus for *CBNRM Net*.]

Contact (ACIYA): Address – GAIA, Cra. 4 no. 26B-31, Bogotá D.C., Colombia; Email – danyma@yahoo.com
Contact (web site): Oscar Forero – o.forero@ic.ac.uk
URL: <http://www.kumoro.com>

India: Request for publications on drought mitigation and desertification. Om P Sharma, Director, Action for Environment Conservation (AECON) in Rajasthan has sent the following:

“AECON is a non-profit non-governmental voluntary organization, operating in Rajasthan state of India. Rajasthan being located in a semi-arid region of India, land degrading due to cyclic drought and human interference is very fast. As a support organization we are rendering socio-technical support to various non-governmental voluntary organizations in the state. Our major aim is to provide cost-effective environmentally friendly socio-technical support to grass-root level NGOs. AECON is also implementing environmental projects in a few villages in Udaipur district.

“We are looking for publication / research papers / projects on drought mitigation or combating desertification / water resource development. May I request you kindly help us by either sending the suitable publication or publication catalogue for the same.”

Contact: Om P Sharma – ops@datainfosys.net

Learning and training activities

Participatory conservation: Participation issues in biodiversity conservation. The World Bank is hosting an E-discussion on this topic, from 10 December 2001 until 23 February 2002.

More than a decade of experimentation with participatory approaches in protected area projects has taken place. The World Bank would like to better understand what advances have been made in participatory conservation, in particular for projects managed by the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

[Ed. comment: Among the relevant practitioners and park stakeholders, the organizers consider the CBNRM community of practice a key stakeholder category. They contacted me to request that

information about this event be posted on the *CBNRM Net* web site (see link below) as well as in the Newsletter. I hope many of you will join the discussion and participate. I have informed the organizers that I would appreciate being informed about the results and future plans, in order to make it available on the web site and a future Newsletter.]

URL (Presentation and Announcement): <http://www.cbnrm.net/resources/events/index.html>

URL (Join): http://vx.worldbank.org/cgi-bin/lyris.pl?enter=parks_participation

Conferences, seminars and workshops

[Ed. comment: See the *CBNRM Net* web site for further listings and details, including documents that can be downloaded, at <http://www.cbnrm.net/resources/events/>.]

Francophone West Africa: IASCP regionalization initiative. A founding meeting, sponsored by the International Association for the Study of Common Property (IASCP), took place in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, 24-25 September 2001.

[Ed. comment: All documents produced in connection with this meeting can be downloaded from the *CBNRM Net* web site.]

URL (Founding meeting): <http://www.cbnrm.net/resources/events/index.html>

URL (Follow-up docs): <http://www.cbnrm.net/library/documents/index.html>

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Afrique de l'ouest francophone: Initiative de régionalisation IASCP. Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, 24-25 Septembre 2001.

[Ed. commentaires: Tous les document `sont téléchargeables à partir de *CBNRM Net*.]

URL: <http://www.cbnrm.net/resources/events/index.html>

URL: <http://www.cbnrm.net/library/documents/index.html>

Contact: Boubacar Ba – eveil@afribone.net.ml

News

Namibia and United Kingdom: Valued cultures and cultural values. An exhibition of paintings of Namibia, 'Valued Cultures and Cultural Values', is on show at the Royal Commonwealth Society (RCS) in London.

Waterworth Owen created the paintings during two trips into rural Africa. He said: "The goal of these expeditions was to capture on canvas the effects of globalisation on the cultures of northern Namibia." Owen is the founder of the ResponseABILITY Alliance, whose core activity is to help enhance arts and crafts in the developing world to "proactively respond to the challenges of globalisation".

He is donating 10 per cent of the sales of the exhibition to Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation, a Namibian non-governmental organisation that has pioneered CBNRM in Southern Africa.

Monica Nashandi, Namibian High Commissioner to the UK, was the guest of honor at the formal opening. Ms Ashanti said that for some communities the risk of globalization is that "it comes with speed and brings about radical changes". In many cases, she added, "it finds itself in conflict with existing cultures and cultural values. The negative effects of globalisation can in some cases be compared to the effects of colonialism on traditional communities in Africa." She cited examples of ethnic societies that had lost many of their traditional ways.

Nashandi stated that the great challenge was "to ensure that people develop economically in a way that will enhance their quality of life without alienating them from their traditions and therefore changing their cultures and cultural values. We should strive to maintain a human face to globalisation."

[Ed. comment: The exhibition ran until 22 November 2001.]

Contact: Email – info@rcsint.org; Telephone – +44 (0)20 7930 6733

Source: Africa News Service, 14 November 2001

World Bank: May 1998 workshop web site. The web site containing all the valuable material from this workshop, that took place in Washington DC, 10-14 May 1998, was pulled in early November. No information has been provided as to why this was done. This is a valuable resource, and we can only hope that this is not a permanent downtime.

United Nations: ICT Task Force. The public launch of the United Nations Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Task Force took place on 20 November.

The ICT Task Force of the United Nations has been set up by Secretary General Kofi Annan to find new, creative and quick-acting means to spread the benefits of the digital revolution and avert the prospect of a two-tiered world information society. The Task Force represents in its composition the public and private sectors, civil society and the scientific community, and leaders of the developing and transition economies as well as the most technologically advanced. Operating under the aegis of the United Nations, it is well positioned to build strategic partnerships and to meld diverse efforts.

URL: <http://www.unicttaskforce.org/index.asp>

UN urges rethink of trickle-down economics. Long taboo issues like land reform and the redistribution of wealth need to be put squarely back on the economic agenda if the international community is serious about tackling the roots of terrorism. Trickle-down economics had failed to address the sort of poverty and social exclusion which lay behind the September 11 attacks in the USA, UNDP Asia-Pacific director Hafiz Pasha said at a regional meeting in Hanoi in preparation for a UN conference on poverty reduction in Washington next month and the UN conference in Johannesburg in September, which is due to thrash out a new initiative on sustainable development.

The news comes as the Bangladeshi Finance and Planning Minister Mohammad Saifur Rahman said at the India Economic Summit today that multilateral lending institutions should not try to link development aid to terrorism. Bringing terrorism to the forefront of economic policy is as dangerous a trend as who is a terrorist is a matter of perception, he said.

Source: Agence France-Press and Business Standard (India), as reported in World Bank Development News, 5 December 2001

World Bank urges better use of globalization to help poor people. Globalization is a powerful force for reducing poverty in developing countries, but the process needs to be adjusted to better help some of the world's poorest countries, a new World Bank report says. The study, "Globalization, growth and poverty: Building an inclusive world", shows that poverty in developing countries steadily rose until the 1980s, when it began to recede as globalization increased. "It might be a blip, but it might also be a turning point," Paul Collier, a co-author of the report, is quoted as saying.

The World Bank cautioned that gaining access to global markets remains difficult for many developing economies and that not all countries are benefiting from globalization. The report showed that 24 developing countries that welcomed greater integration into the global economy in the past 20 years, including China, India and Mexico, achieved annual growth rates of about 5 percent in the 1990s, compared with 2 percent average growth for developed economies. But countries such as Egypt, Algeria, Iran and Pakistan, described as "less globalized" economies, saw their economies stagnate or decline.

According to World Bank Chief Economist Nicholas Stern, "Globalization has often been a powerful force for poverty reduction. But too many people have been left by the wayside." This exclusion is mainly due to "the weakness of governance and policies in the non-integrated countries, to tariffs and other trade barriers with which poor peoples are confronted when they try to enter the markets of rich countries, and to the decline of official development aid."

"Others have been handicapped by unfavorable geography, such as being landlocked and prone to disease. Both global and national action is needed to help those people who have been marginalized," David Dollar, a co-author of the report, said.

Steps to address the plight of these nations, the World Bank said, should include a swift "development round" of trade negotiations at the World Trade Organization that would have as its core aim the dismantling of barriers to third world exports. "Poor workers in developing countries today face tariffs twice as high as workers in rich countries. This must change," the World Bank urged, noting that agricultural subsidies in wealthy nations account for \$350 billion a year.

"The protection you see on agriculture in the rich countries is not only damaging to the welfare of the rich countries," Stern said, noting higher taxes and higher prices for their

consumers. "What is of fundamental importance to us here is that it is deeply damaging to the interests of the poor countries," he added. Likewise, rich countries should open up to textiles exported by the developing world, Stern said.

The industrialized nations must also make good on past promises of increased development aid for the poorest nations, the Bank said, especially as the effects of the global economic slowdown spread from the US in the wake of the 11 September attacks. However, developing countries themselves must do more to convince their wealthy counterparts that they are worthy of the debt relief, financial aid, and open markets they seek.

Stern cautioned that reversing globalization would come at an intolerably high price, destroying the prospects of prosperity for many millions of poor people. "We do not agree with those who would retreat into a world of nationalism and protectionism. That way leads to deeper poverty and it is fundamentally hostile to the well-being of people in the developing countries," he said. "Instead, we must make globalization work for the poor people of the world."

Source: Dow Jones, Libération, Wall Street Journal, Xinhua News Agency, as reported in World Bank Development News, 6 December 2001

Rich countries differ on raising aid to poor countries. The 11 September terrorist attacks on the US have struck the economies of developing countries hard. The global economic slowdown and the fall in commodity prices and tourism revenues have increased the difficulties of the poorest countries. The alarm sounded by the G24 in Paris last week were clearly heard by the World Bank and the IMF, but no consensus on aid emerged at the meetings of the two institutions' policy-setting committees and of the G20 in Ottawa this weekend.

Yet the situation is most urgent, according to OXFAM, "The rich countries must commit to a policy of raising their direct official development assistance (ODA). To this day, the OECD countries' ODA aid level is no higher than 0.22 percent of their GNP, against the 0.7 target agreed by the UN. This gap alone represents \$107 billion."

OXFAM deplores the fact that aid levels have continued to fall over the last 10 years while rich countries have seen their GNP continue to grow. The trend is now likely to be prolonged, due to the global economic slowdown.

OXFAM is particularly concerned that some heavily indebted countries will face serious difficulties in meeting their debt service payments over the next few months. But Canadian Finance Minister Paul Martin's proposal for a moratorium on the poorest countries' debts found no support from a few other rich countries. US Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill expressed his reservations, holding that higher productivity in developing countries is the key to poverty reduction and that any ODA increase must serve this goal.

For the moment, then, the pleas for doubling ODA by World Bank President James Wolfensohn and British Chancellor of the Exchequer Gordon Brown will go unheeded. Wolfensohn acknowledges that there was no consensus for now, but said discussions were taking place. "We didn't expect people to come with their checkbooks in hand, even if I would have like them to."

Wolfensohn recalled the international development goals agreed at the UN Millennium Conference: education for all, halving of poverty and reducing infant mortality by a third – all by 2015. But the US wants to review development aid in light of its modest success in the past.

The South East Asia Group (SEA Group) wants the World Bank to further develop alternative lending instruments and increase its assistance to assist developing nations affected by the current global economic slowdown. SEA Group chairman Shafie Mohd Salleh said the Group member countries, particularly the more export-oriented economies, have felt the severity of the global slowdown and the downturn of the electronics cycle.

Shafie, who is also Deputy Finance Minister, also urged the World Bank's investment arm, the International Financial Corporation, to assist the private sector, particularly the small- and medium-size enterprises. "We must ensure that the bank is ready and has the necessary resources to assist member countries to weather these difficult times."

O'Neill's skepticism towards development is understandable, as much aid has indeed been wasted. But he goes too far when he implies that waste and failure are the general rule. Since 1960 life expectancy in poor countries has risen from 45 to 64. Since 1970 the illiteracy rate has fallen from 47 percent to 25 percent. And since 1980 the number of poor people has fallen by

about 200 million – this at a time when world population increased by 1.6 billion. Moreover, these global numbers underplay the progress in some aid-dependent countries. Uganda has seen poverty fall by two-fifths during the 1990s, and big strides have been made in India, Vietnam and China. Where aid has been given to support reasonable economic policies, it has greatly reduced human misery.

Britain is right to call for a big increase in aid. Over the past decade, assistance to Africa has fallen from \$36 per person to \$20, even though the continent is home to desperate poverty. The global economic slowdown is driving more people in developing countries below the poverty line: Perhaps some 10 million more will live in poverty next year because of the economic shock of the 11 September attacks, according to the World Bank's economists. O'Neill raises fair questions about aid, but they have been mostly answered already. He would do better to devote his energy to making the case to Congress for American commitment to development.

Source: Adapted from World Bank, Development News, 6 December 2001, based on stories by Business Times, Les Echos, Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Stuttgarter Nachrichten, Washington Post

Activities and interventions

Mauritanie: Technology Fosters Tradition (TFT). Le *CBNRM Net* soutient cette initiative intéressante: la première réunion s'est tenue à Washington DC, le 27 novembre 2001. Les documents et présentations concernant cette réunion, ainsi qu'un rapport, seront bientôt disponibles sur la page web de TFT.

[Ed. commentaires: Pour plus de détails, voir ci-dessous dans la section 'travail en réseau' l'article: 'Afrique de l'ouest: Législation environnementale participative'.]

Contact (USA): Hans-Werner Wabnitz – hwabnitz@worldbank.org
Contact (Mauritanie): Lakhsara Mint Dié – lakhsara@mindspring.com
URL (TFT home page): <http://www.cbnrm.net/webhosting/tft/>

Mauritania: Technology Fosters Tradition. *CBNRM Net* is supporting the Technology Fosters Tradition (TFT) Initiative, a joint collaboration of the Global Legal Information Network (GLIN), the German Technical Development Assistance Organization (GTZ), and the World Bank. A first meeting took place in Washington DC, 27 November 2001. Papers and presentations from this meeting, together with a report, will soon be available on the TFT home page (see URL below).

[Ed. Comment: The TFT home page is available on the *CBNRM Net* web site in a web hosting arrangement. See section 'Networking', item "West-Africa: Participatory environmental legislation" for further details on TFT.]

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URL (TFT home page): <http://www.cbnrm.net/webhosting/tft/>

Tools

Collaborative learning for environmental management. A number of new papers and reports on the use of participatory approaches to environmental management are available from the Manaaki Whenua - Landcare Research collaborative learning web site. Topics covered include:

- A number of papers outlining some lessons learnt, and approaches to follow, as we move from information transfer to collaborative learning,
- An overview of ISKM (Integrated Systems for Knowledge Management) – a participatory approach to managing information for decision making in complex situations, and on-line copies of related research papers,
- The importance of integrating local and traditional knowledge with science to support natural resource management decision-making. One section deals with indigenous knowledge and values. Some papers are provided which also shows how the use of GIS can support indigenous knowledge in decision-making,
- Attention is also paid to the importance of actively supporting groups and teams. This includes lessons on building capacity, and the importance of participatory monitoring and evaluation in this process,

- Another group of papers and reports explore issues around restoration of natural systems with-in highly modified (urban contexts). In particular they seek to develop frameworks for shifting the emphasis of traditional ecological restoration goals to restoration of the social and natural connection, and
- The underlying concepts of action research are also included as an approach to learn lessons across these areas. This document notes some differences between action research and mainstream science. Some more practical details of practising action research are then discussed. Finally the process of critical reflection in action research is highlighted, and an illustration of how it's use in practice can help in getting people to think more deeply about the use of environmental practices is outlined.

URL: <http://www.landcare.cri.nz/science/social/>
 Contact: Will Allen – allenw@landcare.cri.nz

Literature

[Ed. comment: This section includes key CBNRM-related literature, both 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.]

African Studies Quarterly. This online journal for African Studies has issued a Special Issue on "Natural Resources Management in Southern Africa". *Citation*: African Studies Quarterly, vol 5, Issue 3 (Fall 2001).

[Ed. comment: *CBNRM Net* member Sheona Shackleton (Environmental Science Programme, Rhodes University, South Africa) has, together with Bruce Campbell, co-authored one of the papers, titled "The organizational structures for community-based natural resource management in Southern Africa". Contact: Sheona Schakleton, email <s.shackleton@ru.ac.za>.]

URL: <http://www.africa.ufl.edu/asq/>